AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION
SUGGESTED SUMMER READING

Welcome to AP English!

AP English Language and Composition is an intensive study of rhetoric and how language works. Through close reading of texts arranged by theme, students develop their ability to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate language and text with a greater awareness of purpose and strategy, while strengthening their own writing abilities. Course readings feature an extensive variety of nonfiction texts, speeches, essays, and American literature.

AP English Language and Composition is a challenging and rigorous college-level course that investigates the uses, purposes, and effects of language. The College Board has identified two primary goals of the course.

Major Course Goals

1. Developing critical literacy
2. Facilitating informed citizenship

Because we want your summer to be entirely yours, there is **no required summer reading assignment** for this course. However, in order to prepare you for the material and skills you will encounter throughout the year, we **highly recommend** that you do the following this summer:

1. **Read a lot**. Read whatever it is you're interested in. Read for fun. Read to learn. Reading extensively will improve your vocabulary, expose you to new ideas and perspectives, and build the background knowledge necessary to succeed on the AP exam and in this course.
2. **Follow current events**. Whether you are reading the news or watching it, staying informed about what is happening locally, nationally, and around the world will help you tremendously in this course. AP English Language & Composition requires you to analyze and write strong arguments about our world, and this necessitates a broad understanding of what is happening around you. Take care to consume your news from a variety of reputable news sources with a range of perspectives to stay as informed as possible.

Enjoy your summer, and please reach out if you have any questions!

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