

AP Language and Composition – Ms. D. Versace Summer Assignment

Welcome to AP Language and Composition!

1. Please email me so I can easily add you to my mailing list: dversace@pasco.k12.fl.us
2. I would like you to find three articles, books, or videos that give advice on being successful. Please write a summary for each (three total) and explain how you can apply this advice to yourself.
3. Please study the terms handout “Checking for Rhetorical Strategies”.
4. Explore the listed websites and take notes on the following topics:
 - a) Techniques for guidelines for close or critical reading
 - b) Guidelines for annotating reading selections
 - c) Grammar/writing issues that you need to improve or that you don’t clearly understand
 - d) List the types of logical fallacies and provide examples of them

I am not assigning a specific amount for length for the notes. Please use good judgment and show effort.

5. Read and respond to 10 newspaper editorials/magazine articles as described on the next page. Answer the questions as though they were short essay responses (restate the question in your reply and answer as completely as you can in full sentences).

If you have any questions during the summer, please email me. I will monitor my school mail throughout the summer, but it is possible there may be a delay in my response to you depending on my schedule.

Due dates:

**For Monday, August 19th (first day of school)
Numbers 2, 3, and 4 as listed above.**

**For Friday, August 23rd (Friday of the first week of school)
Number 5 as listed above with copies of the editorials/magazine
articles**

AP Language and Composition Summer Assignment continued:

Read 10 magazine articles or newspaper editorials from sources such as *Newsweek*, *Time*, or *The St. Petersburg Times* that cover current social issues. Do not use questionable sources such as *The Enquirer* or other “supermarket tabloids”. (Note-you may use newspaper editorials – not daily news events or letters to the editor.)

Make a copy of the entire magazine article or newspaper editorial noting the source and the date of publication.

Answer the following questions as they apply to the article or editorial (numbers 1-10). Answer the questions individually (don’t respond in an essay format). **Provide specific examples and quotes to prove your points.**

1. What is the main purpose of the article? What is the author’s intent? What is the author trying to accomplish?
2. What is the author’s point of view?
3. The most important information in the article is _____. Identify the key information used to support the main arguments.
4. What assumptions does the author make in the reasoning?
In other words, what is the author taking for granted? The assumptions are generalizations that the author does not think need to be defended within the context of the article, and they are usually unstated. For example, if the article discusses the need to strengthen the laws regulating development in sensitive environmental areas, the author may assume that you, the reader, agree that nature should be protected, and not go into basic detail about why nature needs to be protected.
5. What are the implications or the conclusions of the author’s reasoning? What is the likely result the author foresees?
6. Does the author present other points of view?
7. What is the author’s tone (attitude)? (The author’s choice of words helps to convey tone.)
8. Does the author use imagery? Similes? Metaphors? Symbols? Allusions? Irony? Does the author appeal to your emotions, ethics, or logic?
9. Find 3-5 words within the article that you are uncertain of the precise definition. Copy the sentence the word is used in (or copy a portion of it if it is extremely lengthy). Look up and write out the dictionary definition for the word as it is used within the context of the article.
10. How effective is this article? Do you believe the author has accomplished his/her goal? As you think about the answer to this question, consider the following:
 - Does the author provide precise, relevant support and stay on topic?
 - Is the author consistent or contradictory?
 - Does the author show how complex the issue is?
 - Or is the author just being trivial and shallow?
 - Is the author’s reasoning accurate?

Useful Websites for AP Language and Composition

College Board

AP Language and Composition Course Home Page

http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/courses/teachers_corner/2123.html

AP English Language and Composition Web Guide

http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/courses/teachers_corner/26815.html

Sample Free Response Questions

http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/english_lang/samp.html?englang

Close or Critical Reading

<http://www.personal.psu.edu/users/s/a/sam50/closeread.htm>

<http://theliterarylink.com/closereading.html>

<http://www.personal.psu.edu/users/s/a/sam50/closeread.htm>

http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/preap/teachers_corner/45200.html

Grammar, Style, and Writing Guidelines

<http://www.bartleby.com/141/>

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/1/>

http://wps.ablongman.com/long_fowler_lbh_11/

<http://andromeda.rutgers.edu/~jlynch/Writing/t.html>

<http://chompchomp.com/menu.htm>

MLA format

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

General Reference for English classes

<http://www.bartleby.com/reference/>

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl>

<http://www.webenglishteacher.com/>

Rhetoric websites

<http://www.csun.edu/~dgw61315/fallacies.html>

http://taftcollege.webneteducation.com/Taft_Soc_3/Intro_section/logic.websites.htm

http://web.cn.edu/kwheeler/resource_rhet.html

<http://www.goodart.org/fallazoo.htm>