

## SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

**AP English Language and Composition - Mr. Brunak (due date: August 28th, 2019)**

It is my firm belief that being an effective writer is the most essential skill for college success (I would even argue that this skill is necessary simply to progress in ANY career). I also believe that a person cannot be an effective writer WITHOUT being an effective reader.

In order to get a head start on this course, and to develop successful habits early, there is an expectation that students will be required to read and write during summer (this is the expectation nation-wide). **There are two components to the summer assignment:**

- (1) Selecting and reading an approved non-fiction book.
- (2) Writing a (short) paper **that identifies what you believe is the main purpose of the writer**, and references at least (3) specific passages in the book as evidence to support the author's purpose.

Summer reading provides an early opportunity to be immersed in the type of texts (mostly non-fiction) with which we will be working throughout the school year. It also gives students a chance to become comfortable with and exercise specific skills required in this course **throughout the year (rhetorical analysis)**.

For the reading portion of the AP Language and Composition summer assignment, **students will need to choose a nonfiction book to read and annotate**. Proof of annotation must be clear. If you buy the book, you can write in it. If not, use post-it notes or some other form of note-taking. Scanning and printing pages from it and then annotating would be another acceptable idea.

**Once reading is done**, students will need to write a properly formatted (MLA: typed, double-spaced, 12 point font, TIMES NEW ROMAN) essay (**three full pages in length**) that **addresses the author's purpose (a central argument/claim)**. **What is the author trying to convince the reader of? Provide examples (quote/citation) from the text, along with AT LEAST (3) SPECIFIC REFERENCES (INCLUDE PAGE #S) to the beginning, middle and end of the book.**

**TWO SAMPLE SUMMER ESSAYS CAN BE LOCATED ON MADISON'S WEBSITE: (TAB) ACADEMICS, THEN "CLASSES/PROGRAMS: AP COURSES/DUAL CREDIT" – THERE ARE ALSO RESOURCES ON THE WEB PAGE TO HELP STUDENTS LOCATE THE AUTHOR'S PURPOSE.**

**A variety of recommended titles will be provided.** If you choose books that are **not** on this list, they must fit the following listed requirements – **and must receive prior approval from instructor!**:

Each book needs to be at minimum high school reading level or above and should have 150 or more pages of text.

The book must consist of mainly text. It may not be a coffee table book, "text" book, DIY book, Self-Help, Cook Book, or Encyclopedia.

The book must have been published within the past 15 years. Books from the book list may be an exception to this rule.

You may purchase a book (inexpensive/used copies of MANY of these books are available at local Goodwill and thrift stores, Multnomah County's "Title Wave" store, and on-line), check it out from the school library or public library, or download it on a digital reader. You will still need to have your copy of the book when school starts. **CONTACT ME ([gbrunak@gmail.com](mailto:gbrunak@gmail.com)) to receive approval for books not on this list!**

**A PRINTED PAPER (CAN BE TWO-SIDED) MUST BE TURNED IN 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY FOR FULL CREDIT! LAST BUT NOT LEAST – AVOID PLAGIARISM! SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES COULD RESULT!**