

Sun Valley High School

SUMMER READING

2021



11 AP

Language & Composition

Instructor: Mr. Morris

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to Advanced Placement English. This is a college-level English course that will use college texts as well as supplemental materials appropriate for college readers. In addition, the course will prepare students for the Advanced Placement English Language and Composition Exam that will be offered in the spring.

Preparing for an AP exam is a cooperative venture between students and their teachers. Students taking the course should already possess an eclectic reading background beyond the required texts. Students are expected to reflect on their reading through extensive discussion, writing, and rewriting. The pace of the course is rigorous: the syllabus will give you an idea of the topics that will be covered. Under each topic there will be novels, plays, short stories, and essays that we will read and discuss. We will be reading primarily non-fiction works in this class.

Through close readings of selected texts, students will deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and interest for their readers. As they read, students will consider a work's structure, style, and themes as well as literary elements such as imagery, symbolism, and tone. We will cover vocabulary weekly as well as the basic rhetorical devices and strategies needed for students to become successful in the art of writing and speaking well.

Additionally, this course will include intensive study of representative works from various genres, periods, and cultures, concentrating on works by authors of recognized literary merit.

Please be advised that summer reading and writing is a large component of the first weeks of class. Students should have received the accompanying summer reading list and assignment sheet prior to leaving for summer break. Accordingly, the class will initially focus on the summer reading selections. Students should expect both objective tests and essays at the start of the first quarter. Also, time will be spent writing diagnostic AP test essays and taking a diagnostic AP objective test to determine whether they have been properly placed in this course.

I look forward to working with you to make this a year of exciting and intensive college-level rhetorical study.

Sincerely,

Matthew D. Morris

Matthew D. Morris mmorris@pdsd.org

Sun Valley Summer Reading Philosophy

The Language Arts Department at Sun Valley High School believes reading enriches a student's academic experience and greatly rewards future endeavors. Reading over the summer not only strengthens previous learning, but lays the groundwork for the next school year. Summer reading programs support students in the following ways:

- ❖ Previews themes and motifs of upcoming courses
- ❖ Enhances critical thinking and provides enrichment opportunities
- ❖ Commonality of texts promotes student -to- student discussion
- ❖ Introduces an array of genres
- ❖ Encourages them to read for enjoyment
- ❖ Combats the loss of reading achievement over the summer

Summer 2021 AP English Summer Reading Assignments

Welcome to the 2021-2022 AP English class. You have three assigned texts to read over the summer. I hope you will find each one an enjoyable challenge. You can e-mail Mr. Morris with any questions you may have this summer.

The following are your summer assignments. They are all due the first day back in September. Please abide by the due date.

And so, with that very warm and cuddly welcome...

These are the summer reading books:

Thank You for Arguing, Jay Heinrichs (3rd Edition preferred, but any edition is acceptable)

The Nuts and Bolts of College Writing, Michael Harvey (3rd Edition preferred, but any edition is acceptable)

One book of your choice that meets the required criteria (See page 7)

When we meet during the first week of school in September, we will use these texts as a basis for our first discussions and we will refer to them throughout the year.

THANK YOU FOR ARGUING

AP SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

THANK YOU FOR ARGUING is an exploration of one of the main topics of our course: rhetoric, the art and science of persuasion. Jay Heinrichs uses many examples, some modern, some ancient, to illustrate the various important aspects of argument. To show your understanding of his points, please complete the following:

Choose **eight** examples of rhetorical concepts or strategies that Heinrichs uses in the book. For each example:

- Describe the example in 3-4 sentences. What are the circumstances? What is the persuader's goal?
- Describe/define the technique or concept the example illustrates.
- Explain the importance of the concept in understanding argument or persuasion.

Responses should be turned in via Schoology before the first day of class. Look for the "Thank You For Arguing Responses" assignment on Schoology.

The Nuts and Bolts of College Writing

AP Summer Reading Assignment: The Rules

The Nuts and Bolts of College Writing gives a number of guidelines for excellent writing. In order to synthesize the best information from the book, do the following:

- 1) Choose the ten (10) best pieces of advice from the book.
- 2) Create a poster that highlights these tips. Give it a creative name ("The Rules", "Ten Totally Tubular Tips", etc.).
- 3) Your poster should:
 - Be bigger than 8.5" x 11"
 - List all ten tips
 - Explain each tip
 - Give a rationale for each tip (Why is it a good tip?)
 - Give an example of each tip in action
 - Be visually appealing
 - Show evidence of appropriate effort

A rubric for the project follows.

Summary of the Book

If you're lucky enough to like to write—if you love "the music the words make," the rhythm and pace of phrases and sentences, the architectural possibilities of paragraphs—you'll find it easy to use this guide, because you're most likely willing to do the hard work required to write well.

But most people don't have such warm feelings about writing. *Nuts and Bolts* can also help the rest of us for whom writing—especially school writing—has mainly meant drudgery, anxiety, and getting ruthlessly criticized for breaking this or that rule or being "unclear" or "vague" or "wordy," as if we were doing those things on purpose. Studying writing might not seem like fun, but I've tried to make *Nuts and Bolts* as concise and entertaining as possible, even as it teaches its lessons about the active voice, rhetoric, punctuation, and so on. One promise: if you put in some effort at this, you'll get better as a writer.

Student: _____

11th Advanced Placement

Summer Reading Project: *Nuts and Bolts of College Writing*

Poster Grading Rubric **40 – Point Scale**

The grade for your poster will be based on the following:

	Exceeds Expectations	Meets Expectations	Does not Meet Expectations
Points Earned	10	9-6	1-5
Titles & Subtitles	Titles and subtitles are clear and enhance readability	Most titles and subtitles are clear and enhance readability	Few or no title to clarify text
Text Size and Color	All text is clear and readable, a few changes in size and color enhance understanding	Most text is clear and readable, a few changes in size and color enhance understanding	Some text is clear and readable, frequent changes in size and color distract from understanding
Writing	Well-written and organized, clear, easy to follow	Adequately written and organized, reasonably easy to follow	Poorly written and organized, unclear, hard to follow
Information and Overall Appearance	Information presented in a clear and well-labeled fashion	Information presented in graphs or spectra	Raw information and incomplete presentation

Grade: _____

Choice Book AP Summer Reading Assignment

Choice book discussion will use Schoology to facilitate meaningful reading during the summer.

Chose a book that meets the following criteria:

- Non-fiction
- Non-memoir
- At least 200 pages in length
- Of an appropriate reading level for 11th-grade AP students. In order to check a book's reading level, try searching for it in the "Quick Book Search" tool on lexile.com. Look for the Age Range on the book's summary page. If you are considering a book and cannot find it on this website, do not give up on your book! E-mail Mr. Morris to see if the book is appropriate.

As long as the book meets the above criteria, it is likely appropriate—choose a book that interests you!

After you have finished reading the book, return check Schoology for the "Choice Book Reflection Questions" assignment. **This must be completed before the beginning of school.**