

AP Language and Composition - Summer Assignment 2019-2020

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Welcome to AP Lang! This is a college-level course with college-level expectations. Your summer assignment will reflect that. But first, let me give you a brief overview of the course. According to College Board, the AP English Language and Composition course focuses on rhetorical analysis of nonfiction texts and the development and revision of well-reasoned, evidence-centered analytic and argumentative writing. The ultimate goal is to obtain a passing score on the AP exam in May. However, you will also leave the course fluent writers, in-depth readers, and critical thinkers. In order to accomplish this, we will analyze a wide variety of texts, mostly nonfiction, and write lots of essays.

You have a multi-part summer assignment. All parts must be completed by the corresponding due dates. No exceptions! Failure to complete the summer assignments will result in a recommendation for a change in schedule.

The summer assignment includes...

1. *Thank You For Arguing* by Jay Heinrichs (You will have to purchase a copy of this.)
2. various essays (listed below)
3. rhetorical devices

1. *Thank You For Arguing* by Jay Heinrichs

- Read the book and take notes on each chapter. The notes do not need to be copious but should outline the main points of each chapter.
- The notes will be turned in on Google Classroom by August 16th.
- A project for this book will be assigned for Cycle 1 and 2.
- You will need to purchase a copy of the book. I can order them from Amazon if you get your order (and payment) in by Friday, June 7th.
 - *Thank You For Arguing* - \$11

2. Essays (referring to essays that you will read)

- Read and annotate each essay listed below.
- Response writing (at least 250 words, typed, double-spaced, MLA heading) for each essay listed below. There will be a total of 5 responses. Follow the SPAM format provided.
- Analyze each essay based on the four aspects below. Provide textual evidence to support your analysis.
- Each essay will have a different purpose and meaning. Make sure your responses reflect that.

- Make sure you use a variety of literary/rhetorical devices in your analysis. Don't just repeat the same ones.
- All five responses must be submitted on Google Classroom by August 30th.

Analyze each of the essays using SPAM. This can be done as one long paragraph or each part as its own paragraph:

1. **Stylistic devices and rhetorical (persuasive) strategies** used in the piece. Use your rhetorical devices list to identify and briefly explain what tool(s) the author uses and why he/she uses them. What effect on the reader does repetition or alliteration have? How do stylistic choices affect tone and meaning? How do stylistic choices affect the audience's reactions?
2. **Purpose (thesis or main point)** for writing the piece. Why did the author write it? What are your clues?
3. **Audience**. For whom do you think this piece was written? How do you know? You must conduct research about the author, the era, and anything about the essay that will inform your idea of who actually read the work. Facts help your credibility.
4. **Meaning** of the piece *to you*. This is where you can (briefly) elaborate about your personal reaction to the piece. Specific textual evidence is crucial to thoughtful analysis.

List of essays - you can easily find these online.

- "How It Feels to Be Colored Me" by Zora Neale Hurston
- "The Death of the Moth" by Virginia Woolf
- "Shooting an Elephant" by George Orwell
- "On Self-Respect" by Joan Didion
- "Consider the Lobster" by David Foster Wallace

Make sure you read the actual essay.

3. Rhetorical Devices

- For this portion of the assignment, you will study 40 rhetorical terms that we will use and add to throughout the school year. You should study by making flash cards and using Quizlet - I will put links to quizlets on Google Classroom. Within the first week of school, you will take a test requiring you to match the following 40 rhetorical terms with their definitions and examples. (The example for the quiz may or may not be the one listed below.) Please study the following terms:

TROPES (the meaning is altered from the usual or expected):

term	definition	example
1. allegory	A form of extended metaphor in which objects, persons, and action in a narrative are equated with meanings that lie outside the narrative text itself.	Animal Farm is an allegory to Soviet totalitarianism during Stalin's reign.
2. alliteration	the repetition of initial consonant sounds	The snake slithered slowly in the grass.
3. allusion	An indirect reference to a well-known person, place, event, literary work, or work of art (usually conveying a meaning beyond the literal).	"My neighbor is never seen coming out of his house; he is Boo Radley." (Boo Radley is a character from To Kill a Mockingbird—suggests the neighbor is a harmless recluse.)
4. ambivalence	The existence of mutually conflicting feelings or attitudes.	Graduation was swiftly approaching, and Lauren was filled with an uncertain blend of excitement, fear, and dread.
5. anachronism	when an author puts an object in a time period in which it does not belong	The characters in Shakespeare's <i>The Tragedy of Julius Caesar</i> mention objects such as hats and doublets (large, heavy jackets) – neither of which existed in ancient Rome.
6. analogy	Compares two things, which are alike in several respects, for the purpose of explaining or clarifying some unfamiliar or difficult idea or object by showing how the idea or object is similar to some familiar one.	"Tom was as nervous the day of his wedding as he was on their first date."

7. antithesis	Juxtaposition of contrasting words or ideas (often, although not always, in parallel structure).	"It has been my experience that folks who have no vices have very few virtues."—Abraham Lincoln
8. aphorism	a wise saying that bears repetition	Better to light a candle than to curse the darkness.
9. apostrophe	A figure of speech in which a speaker directly addresses an inanimate object or an absent or a personified quality.	Jane grumbled at the sun to go away so that she could sleep a couple more hours.

10. chiasmus	grammatical structure of the first clause or phrase is reversed in the second, sometimes repeating the same words	He exalts his enemies; his friends he destroys.
11. connotation	The set of associations that occur to people when they hear or read a word.	When people hear the word "gourmet," they think of an expensive delicacy.
12. dramatic irony	A contradiction between what a character thinks and what the reader, audience, or another character in the story knows to be true.	At the end of William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, the audience knows that Juliet is about to come back to life, but Romeo doesn't know this, and he kills himself just before it happens.
13. epiphany	A sudden understanding or realization which prior to this time was not thought of or understood.	With the evidence spread out in front of him, the detective suddenly realized who the thief was.
14. euphemism	A device where being indirect replaces directness to avoid unpleasantness.	"Her uncle passed away." (instead of "died")
15. foreshadowing	The use in a literary work of clues that suggest events that have yet to occur.	"The leaves fell early that year." --Ernest Hemingway's opening line of <i>A Farewell to Arms</i> (suggests that there will be an early death in the novel)
16. hyperbole	A deliberate exaggeration or overstatement.	"Man, we've been in this class FOREVER!"
17. idiom	A use of words, a construction peculiar to a given language or an expression that cannot be translated literally into a second language.	"It's a piece of Cake!"
18. juxtaposition	A poetic and rhetorical device in which normally unassociated ideas, words, or phrases are placed next to one another for the purpose of comparison, often creating an effect of surprise and wit.	"His words were both fearful and reassuring."
19. litotes	A special form of understatement in which we affirm something by negating its contrary.	"She's not a bad cook." (meaning that she's quite a good cook)
20. malapropism	The intentional misuse of a word by using one that sounds similar.	"I think he's suffering from a nervous shakedown."—Stan Laurel, comedian ("Shakedown" is substituted for "breakdown.")
21. metonymy	A figure of speech in which the name of one object is substituted for that of another closely associated with it.	People often say "the White House" to refer to the president and his administration.

22. motif	Recurrent images, words, phrases, objects, traits, actions, or ideas that tend to unify the work.	In Ray Bradbury's Fahrenheit 451, fire is a recurring idea that represents destruction and death but also warmth and light, depending on how it's used.
23. oxymoron	A two-word figure of speech that combines two opposing or contradictory ideas.	Examples: jumbo shrimp, dry ice, freezer burn
24. paradox	A statement that seems contradictory or absurd but that expresses the truth.	"Deep down he's really very shallow."
25. personification	A type of figurative language in which a nonhuman subject is given lifelike characteristics.	The leaves danced in the wind.
26. simile	A figure of speech in which like or as is used to make a comparison between two basically unlike objects.	He was like a ticking time bomb ready to explode.

27. situational irony	A mode of expression through events conveying a reality different from and usually opposite to appearance or expectation.	"Water, water, everywhere, And all the boards did shrink; Water, water, everywhere, Nor any drop to drink." (Coleridge)
28. symbolism	A concrete object that has its own meaning, but also represents an abstract idea.	In Fahrenheit 451, the phoenix is used as a symbol for rebirth. It shows that once something is created, it has to fall. Mankind would be compared to the phoenix that burns itself up and then rises from the ashes.
29. synaesthesia	A condition in which one type of sensory stimulation creates perception in another sense.	The trumpet player blasted a sour note.
30. synecdoche	A form of metaphor in which a part of something is used to stand for the whole thing.	"He got a new set of wheels." (set of wheels = car)
31. understatement	Saying less than is actually meant, generally in an ironic way	In Monty Python the knight says, "it's just a flesh wound!" when his arms and legs are cut off.
32. verbal irony	The use of words to convey the opposite of their literal meaning; a statement or situation where the meaning is contradicted by the appearance or presentation of the idea.	Saying "Oh, fantastic!" when you have a flat tire.

SCHEMES (syntax or word order is altered from the original):

term	definition	example
33. anaphora	The repetition of the same word or group of words at the beginning of successive clauses; it helps to establish a strong rhythm and produces a powerful emotional effect.	We will pursue him into the mountains; we will pursue him into the desert; we will pursue him down valleys and into canyons; we will pursue him to the ends of the earth.
34. anastrophe (sentence inversion)	Involves constructing a sentence so the predicate comes before the subject.	Among the weeds were a few wildflowers.
35. asyndeton	A deliberate omission of conjunctions in a series of related clauses; it speeds the pace of the sentence.	I saw the mountain; I climbed the mountain; I conquered the mountain.
36. ellipses	The deliberate omission of a word or words which are readily implied by the context; it creates an elegant or daring economy of words.	"To err is human; to forgive, divine." --Alexander Pope ("is" is omitted, but implied)
37. epanalepsis	The repetition at the end of a clause of the word that occurred at the beginning of the clause; it tends to make the sentence or clause in which it occurs stand apart from its surroundings.	"He is noticeable for nothing in the world except for the markedness by which he is noticeable for nothing."—Edgar Allan Poe
38. epistrophe	The repetition of the same word or group of words at the ends of successive clauses; it sets up a pronounced rhythm and gains a special emphasis both by repeating the word and by putting the word in the final position.	"Unfortunately, it would have been easy to love her; it was much harder to know, for honor's sake, that he could not love what he so wished to love."
39. parallelism / parallel structure	Similarity of structure in a pair or series of related words, phrases, or clauses.	Singing a song or writing a poem is joyous.
40. polysyndeton	The deliberate use of many conjunctions for special emphasis—to highlight quantity or mass of detail or to create a flowing, continuous sentence pattern; it slows the pace of the sentence.	The meal was amazing—my mother had cooked turkey and dressing and green peas and fruit salad and mashed potatoes smothered with gravy and toasty white rolls with honey and pumpkin pie.

