

English III-AP Summer Assignment 2017

Welcome to English III-AP! This course has a dual focus: preparing for the AP English Language and Composition exam and exploring American Literature from the 17th century until the present. In keeping with the College Board's *AP English Course Description*, our focus will be on rhetoric: the art of analyzing, deconstructing, constructing, and presenting arguments in speech and in writing. Our readings will include essays, novels, speeches, poems, and personal narratives by a diverse group of authors who were writing for varied purposes and audiences. You will be reading and critically analyzing more non-fiction than ever before, but even when we analyze fiction and poetry texts, the guiding principle is that **all literature is rhetoric**.

Your summer assignment requires you to study several ancillary resources and use the information to guide you in writing three separate, fully-developed rhetorical analyses on three different kinds of nonfiction:

1. Critical review of The Devil in the White City (J. Maslin, The New York Times)
2. editorial ("Sick Minds Use Storm to Justify Their Hatred" by Leonard Pitts, Tribune Media Services)
3. a rhetorical selection of your own choosing (samples included)

Analyze the rhetorical devices and strategies used in each separate piece by closely reading and annotating according to the guidelines provided. Focus on how the writer/speaker achieves a particular effect on the intended audience for the intended purpose and why the writer/speaker is addressing this particular audience via this particular kind of text.

Write a fully developed rhetorical analysis. You may use any of the frameworks designed for nonfiction. Be sure to consider diction, imagery, details, syntax, and tone (DIDST); as well as speaker, occasion, audience, purpose, subject, and tone (SOAPSTone). Joliffe's rhetorical framework is a great tool for visualizing how strategies, techniques, and specific devices work together to create tone and appeals, ultimately accomplishing the intended purpose. Use examples from the text to support your analysis. A template for the essay is included.

Each of the three final drafts must be accompanied by the annotated selection (your close reading notations on the piece you analyze).

Finally, be prepared for quizzes during the first two weeks of school on common terms, devices, strategies, and appeals associated with rhetoric. Lists are included.

You will learn more about the format of the AP Language and Composition Exam and how essays are scored during the first weeks of school. If you do not have an account with College Board, create one as soon as possible, and start learning as much as you can about this course and any other AP courses you may be taking.

Enjoy your summer!! See you in August! Email me if you have any questions:
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