

Eng 11AP: Summer Reading 2024-2025

AP Language and Composition Mrs. Feinberg, Mrs. Flurry

Welcome to AP Language and Composition! This course is different from most English classes you have taken before. We will continue to read and discuss great literature, but we will also delve into rhetoric, examining the power of language and building skills in producing sound, well-supported arguments.

Over the summer, the book you are being asked to read will help establish a critical foundation for this class. *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell will take us into the world of argument, examining how Gladwell builds his claims about what makes or breaks a person's chance at success using evidence that ranges from Canadian hockey, to New York law offices, to Korean airlines.

We are providing this information in late spring to give you time to dive into this learning opportunity over the summer or within the first two weeks of the new school year.

Text: Gladwell, Malcolm. *Outliers: The Story of Success*. New York: Little, Brown, 2008.

The following components make up the complete summer reading assignment.

1. **Read and annotate *OUTLIERS* chapters 1-7** (you will turn in your copy of *Outliers* for an annotation check for chapters 1-7)
2. **Complete *OUTLIERS* STUDY GUIDE:** As you read *Outliers*, complete the provided study guide (see page 2 of this document) to examine the claims and evidence Gladwell uses! Unless otherwise approved, please plan to type your answers using MLA formatting; you will upload your work and submit to Canvas within the first two weeks of school resuming. **Respond to each question in complete sentences!**

Plan to engage in this learning over the summer or within the first two weeks of the new school year. NOTHING IS "DUE" WHEN WE RETURN TO SCHOOL. Happy reading!

***Outliers: The Story of Success* STUDY GUIDE**

Outliers is an example of an argument. Read the definition of argument below:

Argument: to take a stand and to defend that stand against other possible stands. *Given a subject, what stand can be defended? On what grounds can that stand be defended? Why are the author's grounds of defense better than other grounds?*

Essential components of a good argument include:

- **Claims:** assertions or statements that are open to challenge
- **Evidence:** something that furnishes proof; anything that helps prove a claim (facts, statistics, anecdotes, research data, interviews, etc.)

Answer the following on a separate document (in MLA format). You will submit this assignment on Canvas within the first two weeks of the school year.

- *ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS USING COMPLETE SENTENCES;*
- *INTEGRATE DIRECT QUOTES OR PARAPHRASED SUPPORTING EVIDENCE AND INCLUDE (PAGE NUMBER).*

INTRODUCTION: The Roseto Mystery

- How does Gladwell define the term “outlier”?
- What does Gladwell imply about the role of community in Roseto?
- At the end of the introduction, Gladwell concludes with his purpose for the book. What is it?
- Offer a brief criticism of this opening. How well do you think the story of Roseto establishes Gladwell’s purpose?

CHAPTER ONE: The Matthew Effect: What claim does Gladwell make regarding age grouping and accumulative advantage? What supporting evidence does he provide?

CHAPTER TWO: The 10,000-Hour Rule What is Gladwell’s claim in this chapter about the correlation between practice and success? What supporting evidence does he provide?

CHAPTER THREE: The Trouble with Geniuses, Part I What claim does Gladwell make in this chapter about intellect versus achievement? What supporting evidence does he provide?

CHAPTER FOUR: The Trouble with Geniuses, Part II What claim does Gladwell make in this chapter about practical intelligence and socioeconomic status? What supporting evidence does he provide?

CHAPTER FIVE: The Three Lessons of Joe Flom What claim does Gladwell make in this chapter about autonomy, complexity, and a connection between effort and reward? What supporting evidence does he provide?

CHAPTER SIX: Harlan, Kentucky What claim does Gladwell make in this chapter about the relationship between cultural legacies and behavior? What supporting evidence does he provide?

CHAPTER SEVEN: The Ethnic Theory of Plane Crashes What is Gladwell’s claim in this chapter regarding the relationship between culture and our ability to succeed? What supporting evidence does he provide?

STOP! We are only reading the first seven chapters of the book!