

# AP Language and Composition: Summer Assignment 2024

Welcome to AP Language and Composition! This summer's assignment is designed to give you an introduction to the type of assignments you will experience throughout the year in AP Language and Composition. It is meant for you to engage in learning about yourself and the world around you, over the summer.

AP English Language and Composition engages students in becoming skilled analysts of prose written in/for a variety of contexts, and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes.

This class requires you to delve deeply into the readings and assignments, to question the writer's intent, purpose and bias, and to grapple with the issues the writer presents. With this in mind, you will be asked to follow **FIVE** news stories (two local and 3 national/international), attend **ONE** cultural experience and have **ONE** volunteer experience for the required AP Language and Composition summer assignment for 2024.

## GRADING INFORMATION

### Part 1: Following local, national and international news:

To help facilitate the writing of different rhetorical pieces and discussions, it is important to keep abreast of current events. To that end, students will keep a log of two local and three national/international news stories. You may either utilize the [linked Google Doc](#) or write your information on paper. Students are asked to follow the story for a total of four times throughout the summer. News articles can include sports, local/national/and international events, entertainment or editorials on the same subject. Students will be graded on the following:

- Sources used and MLA citation of those sources (please use this link if you need help you with MLA formatting: [https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/mla\\_style/mla\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide/index.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/index.html))
- Summaries: Summarize what each article tells us about the current event and how it changes over the course of the four entries they will write about.
- Timeline of event: Students should follow an event timeline and revisit a news story for the length of the summer. Students will need 4 entries for EACH news story they are following.

### Part 2: Cultural Experience

Being a student means being well-rounded and having experiences that illuminate the cultures around us rather than simply relying on academic reading for our understanding. Understanding literature goes beyond words on a page and involves delving into humanity, which is why good readers are those who have a wide variety of life experiences that they can connect to their reading. The experience the student participates in should be something NEW to the student, outside of their day to day routine. It should offer the student a different insight and new perspective. The experience does not need to have a direct connection to anything the student reads. As well, please note, while some of our suggestions are local, Kansas City opportunities, you can absolutely engage in any of these experiences if you're traveling this summer!

Some ideas of a cultural experience:

- Going to Shakespeare in the Park.
- Watch a foreign film (with subtitles in your first language).
- Visit a historical site, museum, or landmark.
- Visit the Nelson-Atkins or another art gallery
- Attend a concert (band or music genre should be new to the student)
- Attend another play or musical
- Eat at an ethnic restaurant. Have the staff order for you! Some restaurants to consider:
  - Elsa's (Ethiopian)

- Holy Land Cafe (Middle Eastern)
- El Salvadoreño (Salvadorian)
- Sohaila's Kitchen (Pakistani)
- African Dream Cuisine (West African)
- Anousone's (Lao and Thai)

### Part 3: Volunteer Experience

Recognizing the significance of contributing to our communities, your summer assignment invites you to embark on a journey of service that aligns with your interests and abilities. Whether it's lending a hand to a neighbor or joining forces with a local group, your efforts have the power to make a meaningful impact.

Consider these student-friendly service ideas:

- Joining a theater production team for outdoor performances in your community.
- Getting involved in the vibrant world of "Shakespeare in the Park" productions, like those in Kansas City, Missouri.
- Exploring opportunities within your church or religious group, from helping out at youth camps to assisting during services.
- Forming a small group to tackle park clean-up projects and make a tangible difference in your local environment.

Engaging in these activities not only enriches your own experiences but also fosters a sense of responsibility and connection to the world around you. Embrace the chance to give back and leave a positive mark on your community this summer.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Also, please note, I will likely not be checking work emails frequently over summer break so please reach out early and expect that a response may not be immediate.

#### **AP Teacher:**

Meaghan Pogorek: [nopogore@smsd.org](mailto:nopogore@smsd.org)