

2025 AICE English Language Summer Assignment
DUE: August 25, 2025

Part I. Terms to Know (Must Complete over Summer)

Why must students learn the definitions of these terms before starting the course? Because definition comes before analysis. Clear, shared definitions will help students turn annotations into well-thought-out commentary - you can't identify and discuss a technique you can't name. Learning the terms first, gives every student the foundations needed for close reading, insightful analysis, and purposeful composition required in AICE English Language.

Over the months of May, June, and July, students must make flashcards and memorize the following terms. Please use the provided definitions. The cards will count as a project grade. All AICE English Language classes will administer a vocabulary test by August 29th. Please use the template and example below. Cards cannot be digital. They must be handwritten.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email the following AICE English Language teachers:

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Term

Definition
Example
symbol/illustration

Personification

Personification: the act of giving human quality or characteristics to something that is not human.
Example: The wind howled and rattled the windows.



Parts of Speech

1. **Noun** – A word that names a person, place, thing, or idea.
2. **Pronoun** – A word used instead of a noun to avoid repetition.
3. **Adjective** – A word that describes or modifies a noun or pronoun.
4. **Verb** – A word that expresses an action or a state of being.
5. **Adverb** – A word that modifies a verb, adjective, or another adverb, often indicating manner, place, time, degree, or frequency.
6. **Preposition** – A word showing the relationship between a noun or pronoun and another word in the sentence.
7. **Interjection** – A word or short phrase expressing emotion, often standing alone.
8. **Conjunction** – A word that connects clauses, sentences, or words of the same type.

Sentence & Clause Basics

9. **Clause** – A group of words containing a subject and a verb.
10. **Phrase** – A group of words that acts as a unit but does not contain both a subject and a verb.
11. **Simple sentence** – A sentence with one independent clause.
12. **Compound sentence** – A sentence made up of two independent clauses joined by a coordinating conjunction (e.g., and, but, or).
13. **Complex sentence** – A sentence containing one independent clause and at least one dependent (subordinate) clause.
14. **Fragment** – A grammatically incomplete sentence, often used for emphasis or style.
15. **Declarative sentence** – A sentence that states information.
16. **Interrogative sentence** – A sentence that asks a question.
17. **Imperative sentence** – A sentence that gives a command or makes a request.
18. **Exclamatory sentence** – A sentence that expresses strong emotion.

Core Exam Concepts

19. **Purpose** – The writer’s reason for creating the text, such as to inform, persuade, entertain, inspire, or criticise.
20. **Tone** – The attitude or emotion conveyed through the writer’s language choices.
21. **Style** – The distinctive way a writer uses language, including tone, vocabulary, and sentence structure.
22. **Register** – The level of formality of a text, from very formal to very informal.
23. **Mode** – The medium of the text, such as spoken, written, or multimodal (combining modes).
24. **Form** – The type of text and its typical features (e.g., speech, article, blog).
25. **Structure** – The way ideas are arranged and organised in a text.
26. **Language** – The specific word choices, figurative devices, and techniques used by the writer.

Non-Fiction Genres and Text Types

27. **Advertisement** – A message promoting or selling a product, service, or idea.
28. **Brochure** – A printed booklet containing information, often promoting travel, services, or products.
29. **Leaflet** – A small printed sheet offering information or advice about an event, cause, or service.
30. **Editorial** – An article expressing the editor’s or publication’s opinion on a topic.
31. **News story** – A factual report about recent events.
32. **Article** – A piece of writing on a particular topic, aiming to share information, ideas, or opinions.
33. **Review** – An evaluation of a book, film, play, exhibition, or other product or event.
34. **Blog** – An informal, conversational piece of writing published online, often regularly updated.
35. **Investigative journalism** – In-depth reporting that uncovers information about serious topics such as corruption, injustice, or crime.
36. **Podcast** – A digital audio or video series available online, often in episodes.
37. **Biography** – A detailed account of a person’s life written by someone else.
38. **Autobiography** – An account of a person’s life written by themselves.
39. **Essay** – A short formal piece of writing exploring a particular subject or idea.
40. **Speech** – A formal talk delivered to an audience.
41. **Narrative** – A piece of writing which tells a story or recounts events and is designed to engage the reader through character, setting and plot.
42. **Descriptive writing** – Writing that uses sensory details to create a vivid picture for the reader.
43. **Letter** – A written message sent from one person to another.

Figurative Language, Rhetorical Devices, Narrative & Descriptive Techniques

44. **Direct Address** – A statement in a text that urges the audience to take a specific step or do something
45. **Alliteration** – The repetition of the same initial consonant or vowel sounds.
46. **Metaphor** – A direct comparison between two unrelated things (e.g., "Time is a thief").
47. **Simile** – A comparison using "like" or "as" (e.g., "as brave as a lion").
48. **Personification** – Giving human qualities to nonhuman things (e.g., "the wind whispered").
49. **Hyperbole** – Exaggeration for emphasis or effect.
50. **Triadic structure (rule of three)** – Grouping ideas in threes for emphasis and rhythm.
51. **Rhetorical question** – A question asked for effect, not requiring an answer.
52. **Ethos** – An appeal to the writer’s or speaker’s credibility or trustworthiness.
53. **Pathos** – An appeal to the audience’s emotions.
54. **Logos** – An appeal to reason and logic.
55. **Denotation** – The literal dictionary definition of a word.
56. **Connotation** – The extra meanings, associations, or emotions a word suggests
57. **Colloquialism** – Informal language or everyday expressions used in speech or casual writing.
58. **Point of View (POV)** – The perspective from which a story is told (1st “I”, 2nd “you”, 3rd “they”)
59. **In medias res** – Starting a story in the middle of the action.
60. **Flashback** – A scene set in an earlier time than the main story.
61. **Foreshadowing** – Hints or clues about what will happen later in the story.
62. **Dialogue** – Direct speech between characters used to develop character or advance the plot.
63. **Imagery** – Descriptive language that appeals to the five senses (sight, sound, smell, taste, touch).
64. **Atmosphere** – The mood or feeling created by a writer through setting, description, and tone.
65. **Call to Action** – A statement in a text that urges the audience to take a specific step or do something

Part II. 1st Nine Weeks Reading Assignment Get Ahead This Summer (Optional)

In AICE English Language, reading is one of the most important ways to build your skills and prepare for the final exam at the end of the school year. Reading helps you grow as a thinker, experience new perspectives, and become a stronger writer.

This summer, you have the chance to get a head start on the first nine weeks Independent Reading Assignment. Choose one book from the list provided below. It must be a book you **haven't read before**.

At the **end** of the first nine weeks, you'll take two assessments based on your reading:

- A multiple-choice quiz
- An extended written response

Important: You can check out the book from a library, borrow one from a friend, or buy your own copy. If you're ordering it online, make sure it will arrive before August 15. Not having the book in time will not be accepted as an excuse for skipping the assignment.

This reading is your first step toward success in AICE English Language. Make the most of the summer and start strong!

Book Options

Choose one of the following:

- [Night by Elie Wiesel](#)
- [The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls](#)
- [I Am Malala by Malala Yousafza \(Not the Young Readers Edition\)](#)

*****Extra Credit if you read more than one.**

