

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION

2026 SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT



Welcome to AP English!

AP English Language and Composition is an intensive study of rhetoric and how language works. Through close reading of texts arranged by theme, students develop their ability to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate language and text with a greater awareness of purpose and strategy, while strengthening their own writing abilities. Course readings feature an extensive variety of nonfiction texts, speeches, essays, and American literature.

AP English Language and Composition is a challenging and rigorous college-level course that investigates the uses, purposes, and effects of language. The College Board has identified two primary goals of the course.

Major Course Goals

1. Developing critical literacy
2. Facilitating informed citizenship

In order to prepare you for the rigor and extensive content of this rhetoric course, you will read and take notes (in any form that works for you) on a selection of chapters from the book ***Thank You for Arguing (4th Edition)* by Jay Heinrichs**. While the test on this book will be at the end of Week 3 of the school year, giving you the first two weeks of school to complete the reading, we recommend taking advantage of your more flexible summer schedule to complete a first read-through before the fall semester begins.

Please read and take notes on the following chapters: 1-6, 9-12, 23, 26, 27, 29. You may read additional chapters for future homework assignments, so hold onto your book! (Please note that the chapters of the 3rd edition differ slightly from those of the 4th edition. If you find that you have a copy of the 3rd edition, please reach out for an amended list of chapters to read.)

Enjoy your summer, and please reach out if you have any questions!

Mrs. Grisenti (Phillips) &
Ms. Pflueger
ephillips@tustin.k12.ca.us
spflueger@tustin.k12.ca.us

