

AP English Language and Composition: Summer Reading and Writing Assignment

Welcome to AP English Language and Composition!

This class is about the power of words in the world *right now*. This summer, you are invited to join a prestigious reading and writing community in the *New York Times* 17th Annual Summer Reading Contest. Find the details online at the following link:

<https://bit.ly/NYTSummerReading>

The Task

Submit **FIVE** written or video responses based on your choice of current *New York Times* articles during the ten weeks of the contest, between **June 5th and August 13th**.

NOTE: You can submit only **ONE** response in any given week. Don't procrastinate!

The Procedure

1. **Read:** Find an article or multimedia piece published in the *New York Times* in 2026. (A list is posted with the contest each week; no subscription is required.)
2. **Write:** Draft a response (**1,500 characters MAXIMUM**) on a Google Doc explaining why the piece caught your eye. Refer to the official guidelines, suggestions, and examples of winning entries to become familiar with the criteria.
3. **Submit:** Post your response to the *NYT* official contest page. You will likely need to copy and paste into the entry portal from your draft document.
4. **Verify:** Take a screenshot of the confirmation screen or email each time you submit a response.
5. **Share:** Paste the screenshot to your original draft and share it with the instructor via Google Drive at traci.mellor@fcps1schools.net.

Why are we doing this?

- So I can get to know you as a student.
- So you can share what interests you through the articles you choose.
- So you can have an experience writing for a real-world audience.
- So you can demonstrate a genuine intellectual effort.
- **Least importantly:** Because this assignment will be graded for completion.

Questions or Updates?

- **Location:** Stop by Room 306
- **Email:** traci.mellor@fcps1schools.net

Be sure to let the instructor know if the *NYT* publishes one of your entries! We will celebrate your work on the first day of class.