

Mr. Ruggiero
AP Seminar Summer Assignment 2026

Please read everything in this document. All the information you will need for this summer assignment will be found below.

This assignment is due the first Monday of the school year. This will count as a homework grade and one test grade for the 1st quarter.

Objectives: *This assignment will develop your ability to annotate texts and write reflections. You will develop themes and make connections from two articles relating to animal testing. During the school year in AP Seminar, we will be using annotations, reflections, and thematic connections quite often, so it is crucial that you build up your skill set on these components. In addition, this will help to develop your inquiry on potential research topics.*

Task #1: Getting Familiar with Annotations and Reflections

1. Click the links below on annotations. Even if you are familiar with annotating, take a few minutes to watch the videos. This will ensure that you are creating the right type of annotations during your reading. (I found these videos to be quick and to the point)
 - a. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NmVAfoXhhPM>
 - b. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=25APfCzf8ks>
2. Click the link below on reflections. Even if you have a strong understanding of writing a reflection, take a few minutes to watch this video. This video covers what should and shouldn't be included when writing a reflection. This will ensure that your reflection is written properly.
 - a. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WjLa2sJjla0>

**Put all the answers to the following tasks
(2-5) on a google/word doc**

Task#2: Define the following research terms and give an example for each

1. Bias
2. Unbiased
3. Argument
4. Thesis
5. Claim
6. Evidence
7. Opinion
8. Pro (in argument)
9. Con (in an argument)

Task#3: Background Info

Answer the following as best as you can:

1. Are you familiar with animal testing? If so, tell me what you know. If not, quickly do some research into it and tell me what you found out. (2-3 sentences)
2. Considering what you now know about animal testing, how do you feel about animal testing? (is it necessary? Should it continue? Should it be banned?) (2-3 sentences)
3. In your own words, give one argument for why animal testing is necessary and one argument why animal testing is not an acceptable practice. (2-3 sentences)

Task #4: Read, Annotate, and Reflect

1. History of animal testing

a. Go to the link below

[History of animal testing](#)

b. Read and Annotate the article. You may print out the article or use Kami to read and annotate digitally. **If you use Kami, make sure you make a copy/download the article before you annotate.**

c. Answer the following questions for the reflection: What is the main idea (main argument) of the article?(do not restate the title) After reading the article, has your opinion on animal testing changed in any way? If so, what information in the article changed your opinion? If not, what information in the article helped to support your opinion? Do you feel the author of the article is biased in any way? If so, which way do you feel they lean toward (For testing or against testing)? If not, then what about the article made you feel they presented the information in an unbiased/objective way?

2. Pros and Cons of animal testing

a. Go to the link below

[Pro Con Animal testing](#)

b. Read and annotate the first 10 pros and first 10 cons of animal testing. You may print out the article or use Kami to read and annotate digitally. **If you use Kami, make sure you make a copy/download the article before you annotate.**

c. Answer the following questions for your reflection: Before reading the article, what was your opinion on animal testing for use in medical and commercial purposes? Did reading the pros and cons change your opinion on animal testing? Why or Why not? Which pro did you agree/disagree with the most? Why? Which con did you agree/disagree with the most? Why? Which side of the argument presented its case the best? Explain your reasoning.

Task #5: Final thoughts: Drawing a conclusion

In 1 paragraph (5-10 sentences), state your final thoughts on whether animal testing should be allowed or not allowed. Give specific reasons using information from the articles.

RECAP OF WHAT YOU WILL BE TURNING IN:

- A. Terms (vocab)
- B. Background information
- C. Annotations
- D. Reflections
- E. Final thoughts: Drawing a conclusion

*Your reflections and final thoughts will be submitted digitally to turn it in (THIS IS AN AI CHECKER)

*You may submit printed copies or digital copies of your annotations. Digital annotations will be submitted to google classroom.

***All aspects of the summer assignment will be due by the first Monday of the school year.**

*Be prepared to discuss the themes, connections, and arguments between the articles.

***Do not wait until the last minute to do this assignment.**

****If the assignment is late due to: printer broke, printer ran out of ink, internet is down, I didn't know when it was due, aliens stole it, your dog ate it, etc... you will still lose points off your final grade for the assignment.***

If you have questions or need assistance with this assignment, email me at: cruggier@eischools.org

Good Luck!