

AP English Language and Composition

Summer Work Instructions

(Join the Summer Work Google Classroom with code v4hs3bhv)

Directions: Choose any 5 “[Letters of Recommendation](#)” from the NY Times; we have organized them into topic categories, and we would like you to choose letters from at least 3 different categories. (For instance, I might read one letter from the Travel & Driving category, one from Movies & TV, and then 3 letters from Food).

For each letter that you choose:

1. PRINT IT OUT. Double-sided, please (if possible--no problem if not).
2. Read the letter & annotate it, noting your observations about **each** of the following elements:

Speaker/Writer:	What do you learn about the author of this letter?
Purpose:	What does the writer want their audience to do, think, or feel after reading this letter?
Audience:	Who seems to be their intended audience?
Context:	What notable context does the writer provide? All of these letters were published in the last 3 years; what context does the writer assume that the audience already has?
Exigence:	This is the reason the writer created the text. What inspired them? What sparked their interest? What made them feel that they needed to speak out? In other words, what “pushed” the author to write the letter?

You will turn in your annotated letters (all 5!) on the first day of school (August 31, 2026).