

AP Language and Composition

Summer Schema Building

Schema: an underlying organizational pattern or structure; a conceptual framework. Schema provides the basis by which someone relates to the events he or she experiences.

Some AP Language teachers have categorized schema into the following categories: **c**urrent events, **h**istory, **e**xperience, literature, **p**op culture, **s**ports, and **s**cience (CHELPSS)

This assignment is a fact-gathering, critical thinking challenge to broaden your knowledge of the world around you. It is designed to help you build your personal schema by gathering high-quality information which you will then have as you develop and support your own arguments and think critically about the arguments of others. Ultimately, all arguments are based on evidence, which might include facts, statistics, expert testimony, examples, anecdotes, or other appeals to our beliefs and needs. Effective argument relies on a variety of evidence. The better informed you are, the more evidence you have at your disposal when you need it (for example, when taking the AP Lang exam or trying to convince your parents that you should be able to do that thing you really want to do.)

The Task: Choose 4 “schema builders” from the chart on the next page, each from a different category.

ALL OF YOUR EXPERIENCES MUST TAKE PLACE DURING THE SUMMER. Be aware: we know of the podcasts, TED Talks, books, and field trips you have had in your Naperville 203 educational experience. Please do not use these for this assignment.

For each schema builder, complete the following:

- a. **Copy and paste four templates into a Google Doc (see template on the last page). ALL of your work should be completed in ONE doc! Per department policy, you will submit an editable link, and we will be checking version history. No AI use is acceptable for this assignment.**
- b. **Identify your source.** Include a correct MLA citation. You can visit Purdue Owl or other MLA citation sources to help you with this step.
- c. **Identify the schema category (current events, history, experience, literature, pop culture, sports, and science)**
 - o Look at the list. There are lots of choices. You will find that some schema-builders fit into more than one category. For example, an Academy Award winning documentary about the 1960s could fit in pop culture or history. Label it with the category that makes sense to you.
- d. **Write a paragraph (minimum 150 words each).** Explain this experience and how it has built your background knowledge.

Be prepared to submit your summer assignment to Canvas within the first few days of school.

Have a great summer! We can't wait to meet you.

Sarah Albiniak
Taryen Polykandriotis
Nicole Weiss

SCHEMA BUILDERS: Please read the information in each category carefully and use the template to ensure you've met the requirements for credit.

C	Current Events Find your schema builders in newscasts, articles, podcasts, etc. about events that happened over the summer. Remember that NCHS has provided you with a NYT subscription. There is also a list of passwords for the databases on the library's website if you need it. ☐ current event: local ☐ current event: national ☐ current event: world	P	Pop Culture ☐ Academy Award winning movie-any year ☐ award winning movie-any award ☐ documentary ☐ TED talk ☐ newscast ☐ podcast
H	History *If you read a book for APUSH summer reading, you can use it for this category. ☐ documentary on a historical time, place, event, or person ☐ movie based on historical events or people ☐ book: historical fiction ☐ book: non-fiction on a historical time, place, event, or person ☐ article: about historical time, place, event, or person ☐ article: of historical significance (written at the point of history) ☐ speech: video, audio, or text with historical significance ☐ museum visit	S	Sports ☐ article ☐ newscast ☐ documentary ☐ podcast ☐ book - nonfiction
E	Experience ☐ While part of CHELPSS, this is not an option for the summer assignment. We'll talk about this in class!	S	Science ☐ article ☐ documentary ☐ podcast ☐ book - nonfiction
L	Literature *You may NOT use a book that you've read in previous classes (other than APUSH summer reading). If you write about a book that is in the Naperville 203 curriculum, you will not earn credit. ☐ fiction: free choice, but you are encouraged to seek out something challenging and/or AP level. ☐ non-fiction: memoir, biography, self-help, true crime, etc.		

Template (copy 4 times and place all in one Google Doc)

Source (MLA citation)	
Schema Category Remember - you must use four different categories	☐ Current Event ☐ History ☐ Literature ☐ Pop Culture ☐ Sports ☐ Science
Paragraph (minimum 150 words each). Explain this experience and how it has built your background knowledge.	