

Eleventh Grade: Ms. Courtney Fuson

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**AP Language and Composition
2020-2021 Summer Assignment**

The purpose of these activities is to assess your current skill set and knowledge so that I know where to begin and what to cover. Please read due dates and directions for these two activities very carefully! If you should have any questions at all, please email me at courtney.fuson@knoxschools.org. Do not wait until the first day of school if you are confused--email now!

Activity One: Letter of Introduction

Due date: Friday, July 17, 2020 (So I can know a little about you before you sit in my class.)

In Google Docs, write a letter introducing yourself to me. The purpose of this assignment is to tell me why you signed up for AP Language and allow me to get to know you a little. Possible ideas to explore and convey include the following: 1) What you hope to gain from taking the class; 2) What you intend to do to better prepare yourself for this class; 3) Anything you think would be useful for me to know so that I can help you be as successful as possible; 4) Your personal passions and goals. This letter should be thoughtful and well-written. Use formal academic language and format it as an actual letter (Google what the format should be or use a template if you are not sure how to do it). Your letter should be informational, but don't be afraid to use your writing voice to express yourself. If you can, go ahead and put a selfie on your letter so that I can go ahead and attach a name to a face! **With your signature, include an email address that you will check regularly throughout the semester where I can reach you should we be out of school.**

Activity Two: Article Synthesis

Due Date: Second day of class (Spring semester students will turn in the second day of spring semester)

Go to www.commonlit.org/code and use the code WGP668 to join our class. If you do not already have a CommonLit account, you will need to create one. On the assignments page, you will see seven assigned articles. **If you have any trouble signing up or finding the articles, email me. Do not wait!** Each of the seven articles has directions at the top to guide your annotations. Read and annotate each text and answer the questions that go along with them. If you need help figuring out how to annotate the text, click on the highlighter icon at the top right corner of the text.

After reading each article, choose one of the prompts below and write a two-four page essay using at least three of the articles to support your ideas. Your essay should be in **correct MLA format**, have an introduction with a thesis, body paragraphs with cited text evidence from at least three of the sources, a conclusion, and an **MLA works cited page** that does not count

toward your page total. Please keep in mind, these essays should not be supported with your personal opinion, but with evidence from the articles!

Synthesis Choices

Choice One: Write an essay in which you argue whether or not college is worth the cost.

Choice Two: Write an essay in which you argue what high schools and colleges need to change in order to ensure student success after graduation.

Choice Three: Write an essay in which you evaluate what factors are most important in determining a student's success in college and beyond.

Please follow MLA specifications (i.e. appropriate header, double-spaced, Times New Roman size 12, etc.). If you need help with MLA formatting, please visit https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_general_format.html.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at courtney.fuson@knoxschools.org. I look forward to a fantastic year with you all!