

## AP English Language and Composition

### Summer Reading Assignment for the 2024-2025 School Year

Congratulations, you have signed up for an amazing class, “AP English Language and Composition!” Now, perhaps you just read the title and your first thought was, “Wait! Ugh! Summer Reading? How amazing can AP Lang be if we have to do summer reading?” Well, here’s the thing, most, if not all of you are taking this course with the intention of taking the exam. And, if you are going to take the exam, you certainly want to do well on it. Right? So, the cheat code is that the AP Lang exam is, like the ACT, a reader’s test. That means students who are stronger readers usually do better on the test. Some of you may be thinking, “I’m not much of a “reader”. Hey that’s okay, but it’d be awesome if you were to improve in that area. The great news is becoming a better reader is easy. You just need to read more. And the best part? It doesn’t greatly matter what you read, just that you do. So, here is the first part of the summer reading for the 2024-2025 school year:

1. Mr. Cionfola (*That’s me. Yes, I am writing in the 3<sup>rd</sup> person.*) is an avid reader. For the two months of school-free summer (June & July) he will read between 10-15 books. He challenges you to out read him. **Part 1 of the summer reading is to read at least one book of your own choosing, but also see if you can out read Mr. Cionfola.** (*I know, some of you are more than up for this and thinking “Challenge accepted! Bring it old man!”*) Regardless of where you stand on the reading spectrum start by picking out a book you think you will enjoy.

Great! We’ve got you reading, but unfortunately that by itself is not enough. Now we need you to do some thinking about your reading. The AP exam will ask you to read a few short essays (think a full page to a page and a half), think about them and then answer questions about how they were written. This leads us to **Part 2 of the summer reading** for the 2024-2025 school year:

2. **Read 5 articles in which the author is trying to get the reader to do something.** It could be something as small as change their mind or as large as change the world. Do not feel the need to pick articles that deal with politics or major issues. Feel free to pick articles that focus on subjects you are interested in. (For example, maybe you are a college football fan. You could read an article in which the author is trying to persuade the readers that this is UT’s year to beat Florida (*not gonna happen*) or win the SEC (*definitely not gonna happen, I mean really, if you can’t beat Florida how can you win the SEC?*) While you are reading, focus on how the author is trying to move the reader. **For each article you will do a brief, paragraph long analysis. Your analysis should include, A) the title of the article and the author B) Identify if the author used logic, emotion, morality, his/her credibility or some combination of these to convince the audience C) Identify specific words or phrases he/she used that got or should have gotten a reaction out of the audience. Be sure to explain why those words or phrasing would have gotten that reaction and D) Identify the author’s tone.** You will submit this during the first week of your AP Lang class for a grade. It can be handwritten, printed or shared as a Google doc.

See, that’s not too bad. Doing these 2 things will help make your semester in AP Lang and the exam a bit easier.

**But wait! There’s more!** If you email Mr. Cionfola ([john.cionfola@knoxschools.org](mailto:john.cionfola@knoxschools.org)) during the summer and you introduce yourself, give a little of your background and reasons for taking AP Lang, he will give you a little extra credit to start the semester off.