

# AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

## SUMMER READING

**About the course:** AP English Language and Composition is a college-level course with a stimulating curriculum that incorporates inquiry, critical thinking, and argumentation. The summer reading assignment will help you prepare for success in this class by allowing you to practice some of the basic, but essential skills we will utilize in class. Your summer assignment includes three parts: an introduction email, *The Crucible*, and *Outliers*.

**If you have any questions, please check your schedule and email your teacher throughout the summer:**

Mr. Cionfola [john.cionfola@knoxschools.org](mailto:john.cionfola@knoxschools.org)

### Assignment 1: Email Assignment

Begin correspondence with your teacher. Send an email explaining why you signed up for AP English Language, what you hope to gain from taking the class, and anything you think would be useful for your teacher to know, so that he or she can better help you be successful. Write about your strengths and weaknesses in previous English classes and/or explain what teaching style you enjoy the most from your teacher. Make sure that your email address is one that you check regularly as you will become part of an AP English Language mailing group. If you do not know which teacher you will have for AP just email both of us and we will sort it out according to our rosters.

In the subject line, type your first and last name and the words AP Introduction

Example: John Smith, AP Introduction

**This assignment needs to be completed by midnight, on the last day of June. (Even if you believe you are not taking this course until spring semester, schedules change)**

### Assignment 2: Summer Reading 1, *The Crucible* (To be tested on the first full day of class)

Read, with awareness, *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller. You will take an exam dealing with this novel on the first full day of class. Taking notes while you read will help prepare you for the exam. You may purchase a book from a local bookstore (they have been notified to expect heavy customer traffic for this book) or check out a copy from the library. You may also visit an AP teacher to borrow a copy (although copies are limited, so first come, first serve).

### Assignment 3: Summer Reading 2, *Outliers* (Analysis due on the first full day of class)

Read, with awareness, *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell. You may purchase a book from a local bookstore (they have been notified to expect heavy customer traffic for this book) or check out a copy from the library.

**Write a rhetorical analysis which meets the following criteria:**

1. Write a paragraph discussing the author. Who is he? Why is he qualified to write on this subject? What information do we need to know about him to better understand what he writes?
2. Write a paragraph discussing why this was a relevant topic for the author to write about at the time this novel was published. What was going on in the world or nation or what were key issues during the time this was written that prompted the writing of this novel.
3. Write a paragraph discussing who the specific intended audience was and explain why they would be receptive to the author's message.

4. Write a paragraph discussing the author's purpose in writing this novel. What was the author hoping to accomplish and what did he want the audience to ultimately do? Use multiple pieces of evidence from the text to prove your claims.
5. Write a paragraph discussing the author's tone in this novel. Identify the tone with a dynamic emotional adjective. (For example, angry is not dynamic, but furious, irate, and disgusted are. Use a thesaurus if necessary). Use multiple pieces of evidence from the text to prove your claim.
6. Write a paragraph discussing the author's use of logos in this novel. How does the author's use of logos help him achieve his purpose? Use multiple pieces of evidence from the text to prove your claim.
7. Write a paragraph discussing the author's use of pathos in this novel. How does the author's use of pathos help him achieve his purpose? Use multiple pieces of evidence from the text to prove your claim.
8. Write a paragraph discussing the author's use of ethos in this novel. How does the author's use of ethos help him achieve his purpose? Use multiple pieces of evidence from the text to prove your claim.
9. Write a paragraph discussing the author's use of diction in this novel. Identify 5 words the author uses which have a significant impact on the reader and help the author to achieve his purpose. Explain how or why each word steers the audience to do what the author wants. Be sure to include the quote and page number from the novel for each word.

These are all concepts which were taught in English 10 Honors by Mrs. Shoults. If you were not at Karns High School this past school year, did not take English 10 Honors, or if you are uncertain about any of these terms, it behooves you to use Google or any other search engine to learn, re-learn, or review them.

**BE SURE YOU HAVE MET EACH OF THESE REQUIREMENTS. THIS IS A COLLEGE LEVEL COURSE AND THE FIRST STEP TOWARDS BEING SUCCESSFUL IN IT IS FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS AND MEETING DEADLINES. FAILURE TO DO EITHER WILL SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACT YOUR GRADE ON THIS ASSIGNMENT.**