

Advanced Placement Language and Composition Assignment Summer 2017

Mr. Colao

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Essay and Article Collection Due: First Day of School

This summer you will want to begin assembling a collection of essays and articles written by a diverse group of authors about a diverse group of subjects. These are not short stories or fiction. These are non-fictional writings (essays or articles) that can deal with a broad range of subjects such as; history, politics, world events, the economy, the arts, religion or philosophy, science and nature, style, athletics, race or culture, literary criticism, anthropology, technology, gender studies or psychology. You want to collect a variety of 3 essays and articles from reputable sources. To avoid inappropriate selections (amateur blogs, simple news articles) you will be directed to find editorials, academic writing, essays as well as articles from scientific journals, through specific school supported online resources.

The 3 essays or articles should be informed and well developed. Each essay or article you find should be a minimum of 3 pages with no maximum. Articles can come from *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Atlantic Monthly*.

Another great resource is *Opposing Viewpoints*.

You are looking for **articles** that seek to inform or convince the reader through research and evidence.

One of the essays should be analyzed according to The Basic Questions for Rhetorical Analysis.

As you collect **3** of the essays for your AP Language Summer Folder, be sure to scrupulously and thoughtfully **annotate** each article, writing down impressions and insights.

In a separate 2-4 page written response *for one of the articles*, address the **Five Basic Questions for Rhetorical Analysis** listed below.

1. What is the rhetorical situation?

- What occasion gives rise to the need or opportunity for persuasion?
- What is the historical occasion that would give rise to the composition of this text?

2. Who is the author/speaker?

- How does he or she establish ethos (personal credibility)?
- Does he/she come across as knowledgeable? fair?
- Does the speaker's reputation convey a certain authority?

3. What is his/her intention in speaking?

- To attack or defend?
- To exhort or dissuade from certain action?
- To praise or blame?
- To teach, to delight, or to persuade?

4. Who makes up the audience?

- Who is the intended audience?
- What values does the audience hold that the author or speaker appeals to?
- Who have been or might be secondary audiences?

5. What is the content of the message?

- Can you summarize the main idea?
- What are the principal lines of reasoning or kinds of arguments used?