

2022-2023 AP Language Summer Reading

One of the major goals of the AP Language and Composition Course is for the instruction to help facilitate informed citizenship. According to the College Board, this course “serves the larger goal of cultivating the critical literacy skills students need for lifelong learning. Beyond their academic lives, students should be able to use the literacy skills practiced in the course for personal satisfaction and responsible engagement in civic life” (College Board, 2014).

Being an informed citizen is key not only for success with the argument-based prompts on the exam but also for acquisition of a knowledge base that enhances the ability to think more critically and make more informed arguments in general. Knowing more about the world around us enables us to support more informed and logical arguments and ultimately to promote more civil discourse.

So what exactly does this acronym stand for?

R = reading

E = entertainment

H = history

U = universal concepts/truths

G = government & current events

O = observations & personal experiences

Project Goals:

Students will gather **high-quality** information about the world for background knowledge for the AP exam. Students will have the opportunity to research and be creative on topics of their choice. Students will gain a greater awareness of the world around them.

Directions:

You will choose three different REHUGOS topics. You will also present a brief presentation the first week back at school, presenting in the form of a two-minute speech to a small group. The speech should identify your three (or more!) elements, provide visuals, and briefly explain your learning/why these experiences matter to you, but it CANNOT exceed two minutes so that everyone can present in one class period.

Choose texts that interest you, working within the boundaries of the project. You will need to create a way to present your information. We have provided some samples of previous projects for you. You can also create your own. Some suggested ways are a website, Adobe spark page, Blog, Padlet, Google Folder, etc. Whatever you choose it should be electronic and shareable.

Samples: [PowerPoint/Slides Example](#)

Due Date: First Friday of the School

R(eading):

Choose **THREE** readings from the following:

- a. Non-fiction Essay
- b. Memoir Essay
- c. Fiction Essay

If you have a novel that is of the same level of writing as the essays, you may choose to substitute the novel. However, you must finish the novel.

Places to look: *The New Yorker*, *Great American Essays*. our textbook/50 essays

1. **For each essay, write a brief opinion paragraph regarding the topic present in your pieces.**
 - a. Answer the following:
 - i. Text to Self - How can I apply this quote to my own life experiences?
 - ii. Text to Text - How can I apply this quote to a book or story that I have read?
 - iii. Text to World - How can I apply this quote to the world around me? Historical events? Current events?
 - b. Explain the connections using evidence both from the reading and the connection

E(ntertainment):

Choose **THREE** from the following options:

- a. Documentary Film
 - b. Academy Award or another award-winning movie-any year. (Places to look: Netflix, The Documentary Network on YouTube, Hulu, *New York Times* Documentaries, PBS, and Vimeo),
 - c. Public Performance (poetry reading, play, lecture)
 - d. Podcasts (choose two episodes from any of the following Podcast series: Invisibilia, Revisionist History, The Hidden Brain, Planet Money, TED Radio Hour, BBC Podcasts, The Daily, This American Life)
 - e. Visit a museum. This can be in person if safe or virtually.
1. **Write a 500-word review** for **each** option you chose. If you attend a showing/exhibit, etc, you should also upload a scan of the ticket visit/ performance for the museum or performances. For podcasts, write a 250-word review of **each** episode **(500 words total)**

Samples of reviews:

[Raya and the Last Dragon](#)

H(istory):

Pick **ONE**:

1. Visit a historical site, museum, monument, Renaissance fairs, etc.
 - a. **Write a 500-word review of your visit.**
 - i. EXAMPLE REVIEW: [Cincinnati Museum Exhibit](#)
2. Read a non-fiction historical book.
 - a. **Write a 300 word reflection:** What did you learn from the book? What information was reaffirmed or newly gathered? What conclusions can you draw about this event in history and why is it important? How did the novel come to play a part in that?
3. Read a historical fiction novel.
 - a. **Write a 300 word reflection:** Identify the event that has been discussed in the novel. How accurate was the account? What did the author do well in portraying the events? What didn't go so well?

U(niversal Truths):

Complete BOTH:

1. Choose one quote from the Famous Quote page ([Click here](#)) OR from the Shakespearean Quote page ([Click here](#)). Write an analysis of that quote using the following format:
 - a. Begin your analysis with the quotation, author, and the play (if from the Shakespearean quotes).
 - b. Answer the following:
 - i. Text to Self - How can I apply this quote to my own life experiences?
 - ii. Text to Text - How can I apply this quote to a book or story that I have read?
 - iii. Text to World - How can I apply this quote to the world around me? Historical events? Current events?
2. Research and choose one Universal Truth (avoid cliches). **Write a 250-word reflection** as to how the truth applies to your own life.

G(overnment):

Choose ONE:

1. Research Current Events
 - a. Read **three** op-ed articles on a contemporary issue, one written by a writer on the left and one by a writer on the right. Write a precis over **each** essay that analyzes the author's argument. [Click here for help with the outline](#)
 - b. If you need help determining which side is which, this site is helpful: <https://www.allsides.com/unbiased-balanced-news>
2. Preamble- Six Functions of the Government.
 - a. Choose **three** of the below functions and write as to how our country has fulfilled those functions. Use evidence to support your opinions. Include a reference page.
 - i. The following are the six functions of government as outlined in the Preamble.
 1. *Form a more perfect Union...* States working together
 1. *Establish Justice...* Make and enforce laws
 2. *Ensure Domestic Tranquility...* Peace in our country
 3. *Provide for the Common Defense...* Keep country safe from an attack
 4. *Promote the General Welfare...* Contribute and promote happiness
 5. *Secure the Blessings of Liberty to Ourselves and our Posterity...* Make sure we stay free and keep our rights today.

O(bservations):

Choose TWO of the following:

1. Trends from the "The 10 Trends Shaping the Future of Civil Society" from the *World Economic Forum*. (Access the trend page [here](#).)
 - a. Write on one of the trends. Briefly summarize the trend and then argue to what extent we see this trend in our own community. Include an observation regarding whether or not the trend is good or bad for society, what it is causing, and the possible effects. Find and cite evidence to support your argument.
2. Visual Analysis: view a piece of art that has some kind of significance to you or society.
 - a. Write an analysis of the image using the [OPTIC method](#).
3. View a TED Talk
 - a. Write a review of the TED talk including how it is significant in your life.
4. Choose one way in which our community could be improved. Think local. Find a situation that interests you. Look for possible ideas for community improvements in the *Boone County Recorder*, the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, WCPO, WLWT, and other local news stations.

- a. Research your idea of a community improvement for Boone County/Northern Kentucky/Cincinnati and create an email or letter to city council outlining the problem/issue and possible solutions.

A few notes:

- Organization of your information is key, not only for me to find your information, but for you to keep straight what you have and have not completed. Figure out a method and stick to it.
- You can participate in some of the activities with others. However, that does not grant you permission to turn in the exact same work. Everyone experiences things differently.
- Though many of these places/events can be costly, you do not have to spend any money for this assignment! For example, you can visit free monuments/museums, watch a concert online, and choose options that do not require money. If you are wanting to visit a museum or see a performance, ask about student rates. Some are free!
- If there is not a word limit, do not assume less is best. 500 words is a good benchmark.

Scoring

- Students will gather **high-quality** information about the world for background knowledge for the AP exam.
 - Student completes the required option(s) for each of the 5 areas
○ (1 point each) ____/3 points
- Students will have the opportunity to research.
 - Criteria: Sources will be from credible sites, including primary sources
 - **All artifacts will have an APA citation**
 - (5 points each) ____/15 points
- Students will have the opportunity to be creative on topics of their choice.
 - Criteria: Student will choose topics that are relevant, timely if applicable and appropriate
 - ____/10 points
- Students will gain a greater awareness of the world around them through reflection and/or analysis of each of the 53 areas.
 - Analysis/Reflection is of the highest quality, supported with evidence and reasoning and well-thought out (similar to marks on the AP 6 point scale)
 - (10 points each) ____/30 points

TOTAL: 58 points (entered in the ASSIGNMENT category)

Any questions or concerns, please email Mrs. Dierig at Danielle.Dierig@boone.kyschools.us or Ms. Taylor at Laura.Taylor@boone.kyschools.us

