

AP Language and Composition: Summer Assignments 2024-2025

Parrish Community High School

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Welcome to AP English Language and Composition! This course is designed to be a demanding college-level course, and you will be expected to work at a higher level of reading, writing, and critical thinking. Because this is a college-level course, you must understand that some of the material covered in class will be of mature content.

This is an exciting class that will ask you to look closely and question the world around you as you navigate through various genres. AP Language and Composition will primarily focus on the elements of non-fiction pieces; however, you will work with a few fictional pieces throughout the year.

According to College Board, AP English Language and Composition engages students to becoming skilled readers of rhetorical context and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes.

I am so excited to work with you as we embark on this wonderful rhetorical journey!

Please note that all assignments are to be completed **individually**. You will be required to submit a copy of your work to Turnitin.com at the beginning of the school year, as well as submit a hard copy to me.

DUE DATE: Your documentary assignments are due the first day of school: August 12, 2024. If you do not turn in your assignments, you will be deducted 5% per day. Please note that I will NOT accept any assignments after August 16, 2024.

Part 1: AP Language and Composition Terms

Please familiarize yourself with the list provided below. These terms will be used throughout the year in both multiple-choice questions and essays. Please note that we will have quizzes over these terms within the first couple of weeks of school. It is a good idea to print this list out and keep it in your binder.

[AP Lang Glossary of Terms](#)

Part 2: Documentary Analysis:

For the second part of your summer assignment, you need to watch one of the documentaries listed below and complete a two-part documentary analysis; you **must** choose a film from this list.

Please remember that this is an advanced, college level course; some material read and viewed may be of a material subject matter. Please make sure that you have parental/guardian approval before viewing the documentary. Documentaries below may or may not be rated. Please note that a “not-rated” listing may not be free of mature content material.

You will be required to turn in a signed permission form with your assignment at the beginning of the school year. Please reach out to me if you have any questions about parental/guardian approval.

Athlete A (2020)

Kiss the Ground (2020)

The Bleeding Edge (2018)

David Attenborough: A Life on our Planet (2020)

13th (2016)

My Octopus Teacher (2020)

Blackfish (2013)

Please complete and turn in the first day of school.

I give permission for my student _____ to watch the following documentary _____ in order to complete the summer assignment for AP Language and Composition.

Print Parent/Guardian Name:

Parent/Guardian Signature

Analyzing the Rhetorical Situation: (50 points)

Speaker:	Who is presenting the information? What are their interests/biases? What are their qualifications?
Purpose: (the effect/reason)	What specific beliefs, actions, or understandings are the creators of the film hoping you'll change as a result of watching?
Audience:	Who would be interested in this film? Who/what is the target group or individual to whom this piece directed?
Content:	What is the time and place of the documentary? What is going on in the world as it relates to the film?
Exigence: (the cause)	Why now? How was the documentarian effected by an event? What specific event, concern, or circumstance prompted the need to create the film?
Message:	What is the central argument? What claims support this argument? What are the TWO (2) best pieces of evidence presented, and why?

Please type the following portion in MLA format. If you are unclear on how to use MLA, please visit <https://owl.purdue.edu/> for more information.

In a separate, typed document with clear subheadings, write a short paragraph analyzing each of these five elements in your documentary, making sure you've answered all the sub-questions I've provided. Your responses should demonstrate careful, analytical thinking and impressive writing. For example, when considering "AUDIENCE," very few documentaries are made "for the general public." Each film targets a specific subgroup or "type" of person who has related interests or concerns. What kind of people is that audience made up of? What are that group's common characteristics, concerns, or beliefs? How do you know? You'll need to identify the target audience and describe that group - and, in truth, complete all parts of your documentary analysis - with this level of precision.

Analysis Chart: (25 points)

Just like effective writers, film makers make choices about how to draw our attention to moments or messages they believe are important. As you view, choose four powerful, important moments, claims, or facts from the film to analyze the choices that were made in the presentation of that information. Each of your chosen moments must be separated from the others by at least ten minutes. Complete this analysis in the chart below; one example was provided for you. You must have at least FIVE (5) more entries.

Timestamp: <i>This can be found when you pause the film.</i>	Quote, fact, or claim: <i>It caught your attention, so record the statement, fact, or statistic here, word for word.</i>	Importance/significance: <i>Why does this seem like a big moment in the central argument being made?</i>	Cinematic CHOICES: <i>What sounds, music, footage, or lighting are used to call your attention to this clip? Be as specific as you can.</i>
48.12	<i>"If we don't change our current course, ocean temperatures are less than a decade away from a critical tipping point."</i>	<i>When describing the urgent need to address climate change, ten years seems like an incredibly short time to make these big changes.</i>	<i>The music feels dramatic and ominous. The footage switched from beautiful, healthy coral reefs to bleached reefs caused by warming and acidification.</i>
1			
2			

3			
4			
5			