AP Language and Composition 2021-2022 Welcome and Summer Reading Assignment

Dear Students:

If you are reading this, that means you will be taking Advanced Placement Language and Composition for your Junior year at Santa Clara High School, congratulations! I am looking forward to working with you to help you develop into powerful thinkers, critical readers, and expert authors.

This is a course unlike any you have previously taken. It is a college level course in every sense of the words; but be not afraid! Your peers who have gone before you will tell you that this course challenged them, but more importantly – it *changed* them. There will be struggles, there will be joys, and there will be learning! Most importantly, we will all experience it together.

This course is centered around non-fiction texts, but we will explore some fictional texts as well. In all cases we will be exploring how authors apply the skills of *Rhetoric* to accomplish their purpose. We will then work to make you experts in the skill of argumentation and persuasion, with the ability to make an argument on the spot or over time through careful consideration of multiple sources.

The theme of this course is “I am my Brothers’ Keeper: Justice and Society”. We will explore voices and arguments that have constructed the foundation of our thinking. We will uncover hidden ideologies present in our own minds, and we will hear the voices hidden by the victors of history. In all of this reason will be our guide and king, and you will be the judge of truth and falsehood, of right and wrong.

This summer, you will practice two skills that will make you successful in the course, **READING and ANNOTATING.** Your summer assignment is to read a book and three memoirs. The book (*And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie) and the three memoirs are all linked on the website for you. In addition, please watch all videos posted for the summer reading unit on the website, they will be helpful!

You will complete a total of 30 double entry journal entries for the readings. Fifteen (15) of these will be for *And Then There Were None*, in addition to five (5) for each of the memoirs. You will have an exam on all the readings during the first week of school, additionally, these readings will help you with your first project – the construction of your own memoir.

Please check your emails and the website frequently. I will be available all summer via email to help out if you have any questions, or encounter challenges. Remember, this is your journey, I am here to support you through it! Have a wonderful summer!

Very Respectfully,

Patrick Allison, M.Ed.

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**DOUBLE ENTRY JOURNALS**

**Double-Entry Journal Format**

-In double-entry journals, facts are written on the left and interpretations or reactions on the right.

-In the left-hand (fact) column, you may include quotations, summaries, or paraphrases.

-In the right-hand (interpretation and reaction) column, you may analyze or personally respond.

* (Fiction): What do I predict will happen? Give support from the text.
* How does this tie in with my experience, previous readings, class discussions, expectations?
* What do I not understand? What questions do I have?
* Do I agree/disagree with the author? Why?
* What impressed me/annoyed me about the reading?
* What do I notice about the author’s techniques—how does he or she emphasize a point or evoke a reaction? (Consider mood, tone, foreshadowing, irony, figurative language devices, sound devices, and other literary devices. Figurative language devices include simile, metaphor etc.
* How does this new information fit with my beliefs, my philosophy, prior knowledge?
* Where have my ideas been challenged, changed, confirmed?

**Reflections should be more than just "I like this idea," or "I've never met a person who could live up to this." Comments should reflect thoughtful views on the implications of what the author is saying. The WHY and HOW should be explored rather than the WHAT. Be sure to title and date each entry.**

