**Welcome to AP English Language and Composition**!

**What is AP English Language and Composition?**

From the College Board website:

“The AP English Language and Composition course focuses on the development and revision of evidence-based analytic and argumentative writing, the rhetorical analysis of nonfiction texts, and the decisions writers make as they compose and revise. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Additionally, they read and analyze rhetorical elements and their effects in nonfiction texts—including images as forms of text—from a range of disciplines and historical periods.”

In other words, we will be reading a wide range of non-fiction texts, holding discussions, and writing synthesis, rhetorical analysis, and argumentative essays this year in preparation for the AP exam in May. Success on the exam will give you college credit for your first semester English class.

To prepare for the rigor of a college-level class, there are a few things to accomplish over the summer. These assignments will be your first grades for the first marking period and set you up for success as we begin your junior year English class.

**ASSIGNMENT #1: The Letter of Introduction**

**DUE DATE:** August 31, 2023 11:59pm.

E-mail the completed letter as a word document file. Do not type the letter in your email. My email address is: [llee@lindenps.org](mailto:llee@lindenps.org)

In the subject line, type your first and last name and Letter of Introduction.

The purpose of this assignment is to tell your future instructor why you signed up for AP English and to share a little bit about yourself. Possible ideas to explore and convey include the following: 1) Who are you and what makes you uniquely you? 2) What do you hope to gain from taking the class? 3) What do you intend to do to be successful in this class? 4) Is there anything else you think I should know to be the best possible instructor for you? 5) Do you have any questions about this class?

This letter should be thoughtful and well-written. Use formal academic language and follow the appropriate business letter format. (Google what the format should be or use a Microsoft Word Template if you are not sure how to do it.). Please see this link for my letter which you can use as a formatting guideline and this link for the rubric for the letter. (I wrote the letter from the perspective of a teacher; you will be writing to me as a student.) Your letter should be informational, but don’t be afraid to use your writing voice to express yourself. Lively, interesting writing is always better than boring, lackluster writing!

**ASSIGNMENT #2: Current Events**

**DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL**

It's very important that you become aware of what's happening in the world today so that you have some kind of repertoire to draw on when writing your papers. Allusions make you a stronger, more credible writer. Therefore, you will be asked to pick one of the topics below and collect THREE news articles about the subject. You will need to make sure that the articles are from trusted news sources (newspapers or news publications and organizations like Time, Newsweek, CNN, etc.). **Write a 150–200-word summary for each article (typed, double-spaced) and include a link or pdf or hard copy of the article**. Also use the SOAPStone acronym to identify the Speaker, Occasion, Audience, Purpose, Subject and Tone of the article. Use this [link](https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Learning-in-Ohio/English-Language-Art/Resources-for-English-Language-Arts/Grade-11-12-SOAPSTONE.pdf.aspx) for more information on SOAPStone and a rubric for the assignment. You will be submitting these article summaries on the first day of school using Turnitin. Any plagiarized or IA-generated assignments will not be accepted.

* TERRORISM
* PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION
* SOCIAL NETWORKING
* FOOD LABELING
* WAR IN UKRAINE
* HEALTH CARE
* EDUCATION REFORM
* GREEN TECHNOLOGY
* HEAD INJURIES/CONCUSSIONS IN SPORTS
* IMMIGRATION
* CLIMATE CHANGE/CHANGING WEATHER PATTERNS
* THE AUTO INDUSTRY
* CELEBRITIES CAUGHT UP IN SCANDALS
* AMERICA’S CRUMBLING INFRASTRUCTURE
* PAYING COLLEGE ATHLETES

If you are interested in a category different from those listed above, feel free to send me an email ([llee@lindenps.org](mailto:llee@lindenps.org)) asking if you can focus on it instead. There is flexibility here. But you must find at least three articles for whatever topic you eventually settle on. When we return to school, we will be setting up a discussion board for AP English Language and Composition to keep track of current events. Throughout the year you will use this board to share your thoughts on current events, important issues and the big ideas that make this class interesting and fun. You will ask questions of one another, make thoughtful comments on each other’s work and complete assignments.

**ASSIGNMENT #3: Rhetorical Devices on Quizlet**

**DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL**

Join my AP Language Class on Quizlet so that you can access all vocabulary for the year.

Join at <https://quizlet.com/join/h9ZBh48Nk?i=9ardl&x=1bqt>

Begin reviewing the 35 AP Language Rhetorical Devices at this [link](https://quizlet.com/804884957/ap-language-and-composition-the-language-of-composition-general-terms-flash-cards/?new)

(It looks like a lot, but you are probably already familiar with many of them.)

The more familiar you are with these terms, the easier the beginning of the year will be. There will be a quiz on these terms the first week of school, and we will begin using these terms immediately. You will get extra credit for this assignment if you make flashcards on index cards for the words.