

## Summer Assignment for AP Language and Composition: Inquiry Project

**Overview:** In order to be successful on the AP exam you must read voraciously over the course of the year. Each of you has subjects of particular interest to you that school does not always allow you the opportunity to investigate. This assignment outlines the summer reading requirement.

**The assignment:** You will investigate a topic of great personal interest in depth by reading two related nonfiction texts. This is your opportunity to learn about something that *matters to you*. You will then complete an annotated bibliography to be turned in on the first day of class in August, followed by a short project during the first weeks of class.

**There are 3 parts to the summer assignment that you will need to turn in.**

1. **Proposal – due Wednesday, May 17 by 2:45 p.m. as a Google doc shared with both Rae Cunningham and Pam Worth**
2. Annotated bibliography – due the first day of class in August
3. Product/performance – due during the first few weeks of school

### **Part I: The Proposal**

Each student must submit a typed, one-page proposal (see example on Mrs. Cunningham's or Ms. Worth's classroom page titled AP Lang Summer Work) **as a Google doc shared with both Rae Cunningham and Pam Worth.** *Work submitted after this time will be considered late and will not receive full credit. First impressions are important!*

The proposal must include the following:

- The **subject** of your inquiry (nature, science, relationships, Africa, self-image)
- A **guiding question** (or questions) about this subject (e.g. What is mankind's place in the natural world?)
- A **rationale** for why you want to study this subject all semester
- A **summary** of what you know about this subject at this time
- A **prediction** about what you think you will discover during your investigation
- The **titles and authors** of the two books PLUS **page number** you will read this semester
- A **discussion** as to the importance of this subject (which answers the questions, "So what?")

*The proposal MUST be one page or LESS. Please be concise and get to the point.*

→ **Set up your paper using these headings:** subject, guiding question, rationale, summary, prediction, titles/author/page#, discussion. Your proposal will be returned to you if you do not use this set up. This proposal does not use paragraph form.

### **Guidelines for choosing a book:**

- Must be non-fiction. Be sure to avoid science fiction, novels, and middle school books.
- Appropriate page length is roughly 160 or more.
- Avoid books that are movies. If you do choose one, be prepared to explain in detail the many differences between the book and the movie.
- Avoid two books by the same author. You should have a varied perspective of your topic.


*Turn paper over*

## **Part 2: Read and Write**

**Read two related nonfiction texts and complete an annotated bibliography of both books. Take notes as you read so that you can reference the books and recall what you read in August.**

\*Please see the examples on the teacher websites. Your paper should be set up in **MLA** with these headings: Introduction, Conclusions (with bullet points), and Annotated Bibliography followed by the citation of one book and its summary then the citation of your other book and its summary.

The **annotated bibliography** must include the following:

- An introduction that clearly identifies the inquiry question you sought to answer that *briefly* explains *why* this subject interests you, and identifies (in *bullets*) the three main conclusions you drew from your study of this topic through these books. **You should identify the book in each bullet point** (like the sample). 
- Title, author, publisher, publication date, city, and number of pages (i.e., complete and proper citation information for each book).
- A summary of each text, including your interpretation of each authors' main argument(s).
- **Your entire typed portion should be no more than three typed, double-spaced pages (please use proper MLA format). This is an exercise in brevity – choose your words carefully!**
- **Please look at the example provided on Mrs. Cunningham's or Ms. Worth's webpage.**
- After you have completed your annotated bibliography, share it in Google docs with Mrs. Cunningham and/or Ms. Worth

## **Part 3: Product/performance to be completed at school**

**During the first three weeks of school, each student will perform, produce or present your final project; this must incorporate both books.** The work you completed over the summer is just the beginning... it lays the foundation for our first quarter work! During the first weeks of school in August, you will be using your readings and inquiry questions to create a product or performance to exhibit your newfound knowledge. Be thinking about what kind of project you might want to do; the first week of school will be devoted to refining your ideas about the product/performance of your choice. You might consider: a speech, podcast or video (interview experts, documentary), performance (skit, song, rap, etc.), VoiceThread/PhotoStory, scrapbook, web page, wiki, glog, etc.

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### **IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS:**

Please see Mrs. Cunningham in A233 or Ms. Worth in B271 or email either of us as soon as possible.