

Sun Valley High School
SUMMER READING 2016



11 AP
Language and Composition

Instructor: Mr. Morris

Summer Reading Philosophy

The Language Arts Department at Sun Valley High School believes reading enriches a student's academic experience and greatly rewards future endeavors. Reading over the summer not only strengthens previous learning, but lays the groundwork for the next school year. Summer reading programs support students in the following ways:

- ❖ Previews themes and motifs of upcoming courses
- ❖ Enhances critical thinking and provides enrichment opportunities
- ❖ Commonality of texts promotes student -to- student discussion
- ❖ Introduces an array of genres
- ❖ Encourages them to read for enjoyment
- ❖ Combats the loss of reading achievement over the summer

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to Advanced Placement English. This is a college-level English course that will use college texts as well as supplemental materials appropriate for college readers. In addition, the course will prepare students for the Advanced Placement English Language and Composition Exam that will be offered in the spring.

Preparing for an AP exam is a cooperative venture between students and their teachers. Students taking the course should already possess an eclectic reading background beyond the required texts. Students are expected to reflect on their reading through extensive discussion, writing, and rewriting. The pace of the course is rigorous: the syllabus will give you an idea of the topics that will be covered. Under each topic there will be novels, plays, short stories, and essays that we will read and discuss. We will be reading primarily non-fiction works in this class.

Through close readings of selected texts, students will deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and interest for their readers. As they read, students will consider a work's structure, style, and themes as well as literary elements such as imagery, symbolism, and tone. We will cover vocabulary weekly as well as the basic rhetorical devices and strategies needed for students to become successful in the art of writing and speaking well.

Additionally, this course will include intensive study of representative works from various genres, periods, and cultures, concentrating on works by authors of recognized literary merit.

Please be advised that summer reading and writing is a large component of the first weeks of class. Students should have received the accompanying summer reading list and assignment sheet prior to leaving for summer break. Accordingly, the class will initially focus on the summer reading selections. Students should expect both objective tests and essays at the start of the first quarter. Also, time will be spent writing diagnostic AP test essays and taking a diagnostic AP objective test to determine whether they have been properly placed in this course.

I look forward to working with you to make this a year of exciting and intensive college-level rhetorical study.

Sincerely,

Matthew D. Morris

Matthew D. Morris mmorris@pdsd.org

Summer 2016 AP English Summer Reading Assignments

Welcome to the 2016-2017 AP English class. You have three assigned texts to read over the summer. We hope you will find each one an enjoyable challenge. You must also read the required book for the One Book, One School program. (You are reading four books total this summer.) You can e-mail Mr. Morris with any questions you may have this summer.

The following are your summer assignments. They are all due the first day back in September. Please abide by the due date.

And so, with that very warm and cuddly welcome...

These are the summer reading books:

Mythology, Edith Hamilton

Thank You for Arguing, Jay Heinrichs (2013 Edition)

The Nuts and Bolts of College Writing, Michael Harvey

One Book, One School Selection

When we meet during the first week of school in September, we will use these texts as a basis for our first discussions and we will refer to them throughout the year.

***Mythology* by Edith Hamilton**

AP Summer Reading Assignment

Note: Each student is required to read the entire book. Each student will answer the study questions for Chapter One: The Gods. In addition, each student will be assigned one additional chapter to answer a series of questions dealing with that specific chapter. Look for a document with your chapter assignment and chapter study questions on [Google Classroom](#), in the 11AP Summer Reading 2016 class. (You must be logged in to your pdsdstudents account to access Google Classroom.)

Students will be responsible for presenting information on their assigned chapters upon return to school.

It is best if you save your chapter questions to your computer and type your response below each question. Be prepared to turn in your responses on the first day of class.

THANK YOU FOR ARGUING

AP SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

THANK YOU FOR ARGUING is an exploration of one of the main topics of our course: rhetoric, the art and science of persuasion. Jay Heinrichs uses many examples, some modern, some ancient, to illustrate the various important aspects of argument. To show your understanding of his points, please complete the following:

Choose **eight** examples of rhetorical concepts or strategies that Heinrichs uses in the book. For each example:

- Describe the example in 3-4 sentences. What are the circumstances? What is the persuader's goal?
- Describe/define the technique or concept the example illustrates.
- Explain the importance of the concept in understanding argument or persuasion.

Responses should be typed up and ready to turn in on the first day of class.

The Nuts and Bolts of College Writing

AP Summer Reading Assignment: The Rules

The Nuts and Bolts of College Writing gives a number of guidelines for excellent writing. In order to synthesize the best information from the book, do the following:

- 1) Choose the ten (10) best pieces of advice from the book.
- 2) Create a poster that highlights these tips. Give it a creative name (“The Rules”, “Ten Totally Tubular Tips”, etc.).
- 3) Your poster should:
 - Be bigger than 8.5” x 11”
 - List all ten tips
 - Explain each tip
 - Give a rationale for each tip (Why is it a good tip?)
 - Give an example of each tip in action
 - Be visually appealing
 - Show evidence of appropriate effort

A rubric for the project follows.

Summary of the Book

If you're lucky enough to like to write—if you love "the music the words make," the rhythm and pace of phrases and sentences, the architectural possibilities of paragraphs—you'll find it easy to use this guide, because you're most likely willing to do the hard work required to write well..

But most people don't have such warm feelings about writing. *Nuts and Bolts* can also help the rest of us for whom writing—especially school writing—has mainly meant drudgery, anxiety, and getting ruthlessly criticized for breaking this or that rule or being "unclear" or "vague" or "wordy," as if we were doing those things on purpose. Studying writing might not seem like fun, but I've tried to make *Nuts and Bolts* as concise and entertaining as possible, even as it teaches its lessons about the active voice, rhetoric, punctuation, and so on. One promise: if you put in some effort at this, you'll get better as a writer.

Student: _____

11th Advanced Placement

Summer Reading Project: *Nuts and Bolts of College Writing*

Poster Grading Rubric **40 – Point Scale**

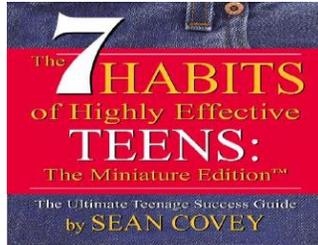
The grade for your poster will be based on the following:

	Exceeds Expectations	Meets Expectations	Does not Meet Expectations
Points Earned	10	9-6	1-5
Titles & Subtitles	Titles and subtitles are clear and enhance readability	Most titles and subtitles are clear and enhance readability	Few or no title to clarify text
Text Size and Color	All text is clear and readable, a few changes in size and color enhance understanding	Most text is clear and readable, a few changes in size and color enhance understanding	Some text is clear and readable, frequent changes in size and color distract from understanding
Writing	Well-written and organized, clear, easy to follow	Adequately written and organized, reasonably easy to follow	Poorly written and organized, unclear, hard to follow
Information and Overall Appearance	Information presented in a clear and well-labeled fashion	Information presented in graphs or spectra	Raw information and incomplete presentation

Grade: _____

In addition to the required Summer Reading assignment for Language Arts, students must also participate in One School, One Book by reading *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens*:

Sun Valley High School Presents



One School, One Book Initiative

“The inspiring examples from real-life problems that teenagers like myself deal with every day, and their experiences and situations, have helped me make lifesaving decisions. I highly recommend this book to any teenager.” —JEREMY, Age 19

The seven characteristics that happy and successful teens all over the world have in common:

Habit 1: **Be Proactive:** Take responsibility for your life.

Habit 2: **Begin with the End in Mind:** Define your mission and goals in life.

Habit 3: **Put First Things First:** Prioritize, and do the most important things first.

Habit 4: **Think Win-Win:** Have an everyone-can-win attitude.

Habit 5: **Seek First to Understand:** Then to be understood and listen to people sincerely.

Habit 6: **Synergize:** Work together to achieve more.

Habit 7: **Sharpen the Saw:** Renew yourself regularly.

Philosophy of One School, One Book: The genesis of One Book, One School started out in the elementary schools in the Penn-Delco School District. That philosophy has expanded into the middle school and is being introduced at the high school for the 2016-17 school year. The initial feedback from the elementary schools and the middle school is that when an entire school reads the same book, the excitement and discussion concentrated on the book enhances the student learning experience. Most importantly, reading a book together as a school creates the added joy of building and expanding a sense of community among all stakeholders including students, parents, teachers, and staff.

“One School, One Book compliments all of our efforts at Sun Valley. The *7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens* is an excellent tool for anyone of any age in our community. The book is practical, fun, and meaningful. A must read on anyone’s summer reading shelf.”

Pete Donaghy-Principal, Sun Valley High School

Philosophy of One School, One Book at the high school: *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens* will be used with the freshman class in conjunction with the Freshman Academy curriculum. Assessment pieces in the sophomore, junior and senior classes will embrace all academic disciplines.