

Dear Incoming AP Student:

Welcome to the Advanced Placement English Language and Composition Program. This program will enhance your reading and writing abilities, prepare you for the AP English Language and Composition exam, and provide the possibility of earning college credit. We will focus on reading, writing, and analyzing the tone and language (use of rhetoric) of many authors. This class will require commitment. As such, you will be held accountable for a summer assignment.

Through this course, you will discover the historical and cultural significance of a wide range of authors, and implement the use of rhetoric and persuasive techniques in selected non-fiction works. In addition, our AP class will complete a research paper synthesizing multiple works by an American author. In order to prepare for this challenge, you must complete an AP summer assignment. Each student will **read three books**, compile a series of notes and annotations, and write an essay (see assignment below). While the essay will display your ability as a writer, the reading will prepare you for the rigorous workload of an AP course. During the school year, our AP class will read and analyze both fiction and non-fiction. Therefore, one of your summer readings selections must be non-fiction; the other may be fiction.

The Summer Assignment – Select two works of literature from the attached list. Select **one fiction work, and one non-fiction work**. Write a 2-3 page essay (12 pt. Times New Roman font, double spaced) analyzing how the authors use tone to convey a point, and discuss how effective it is. Incorporate your knowledge of specific details into the essay **and include short quotations to back up major claims**. Within this essay you should provide a summary of both works and compare and contrast the authors' purpose and intentions. Internet summaries and other study aides alone will not provide the material needed to write a quality essay. This essay is due on the first day of class.

*In addition, *Angela's Ashes* by Frank McCourt is a **mandatory summer read** for all students enrolled in the AP Language class. Please have notes prepared (with discussion questions, detailed plot occurrences, and literary connections). Notes will be collected the second week of school.

If you have any questions concerning the assignment, please email me at weller.evan@pburgsd.net. I look forward to reading your essays and working with you on all future assignments. Enjoy your summer!

Sincerely,

Mr. Weller
AP Language and Composition Teacher