

June 1, 2019

Welcome to **AP Language and Composition**! We are looking forward to working with you as we plan a busy and productive year. To get things started, take some time to go to the beach, relax, and breathe deeply. Take some time to read this summer as well; the formula to success in AP Language and Composition is to read, read, and read some more. Read pieces *you* like – a new YA or sci-fi novel, a weekly magazine, a memoir – whatever!

Once you've done some reading, start writing:

1) **Choose one book from the AP Language and Composition summer reading list** and enjoy! You will be assessed upon your return to school. We recommend keeping notes on your book; while you will not be graded on them, they will enhance your understanding and provide a study guide to use/review prior to the assessment.

2) Read the *Autobiography of Malcolm X*. You will be issued a copy of the book and will be responsible for returning the same copy/number to me in the fall. This book runs a bit long once Malcolm X converts to the Nation of Islam, but it is well worth the struggle. As you read, keep a journal (you may do this by hand or on a computer; it will be assessed). Write a paragraph for every one of the nineteen chapters you read. I suggest you keep up with the writing as you read; many kids have left it all until the end which proves to be a struggle.

These journal paragraphs can be whatever you want to make of them. You may respond directly to the reading, noting aspects of character and events that appeal to you. You may criticize or praise characters, events, or writing style. You may write a creative entry that the chapter inspires. Anything goes. Paragraphs should be well-developed. We will collect this work upon our return to school in September. **WARNING: after several episodes of plagiarism, we do not want mere summaries of each chapter.** Your responses should be original, insightful, personal, and creative! Stay away from Spark Notes and the like!

3) Finally, write an op-ed (opinion/editorial) piece for your local newspaper. To do this, read over a few issues of your newspaper and see what you find there. Is there an issue you would like to bring up? Great! Write 300-500 words and share your thoughts. Otherwise, choose a news story/editorial you find in the paper and write a response to it. Mail or email one copy of your writing to a newspaper of your choice and post it to the Canvas summer page assignment (please include a copy or link of the original editorial if you have written a response.)

There's a good chance your piece will get published, so you may start off the year as a well-known writer! **THIS ASSIGNMENT IS TO BE COMPLETED DURING THE SUMMER. THE DEADLINE DATE IS FRIDAY AUGUST 23, 2019.** You will earn credit for this assignment (FCA's below), so **be sure to submit your editorial to Canvas by the due date.**

Summer Editorial FCA's – please include on your editorial along with your name.

Basics (10)

Clear Claim (10)

Support (30)

*If you have any questions about the assignments or the course in general, stop by Room 329 or 326 before summer vacation to see Ms. Timlin or Ms. O'Connell.

*You are welcome to email us at etimlin@mpsd.org lo'connell@mpsd.org

Have a terrific summer. -Ms. Timlin and Ms. O'Connell

Summer Reading AP Language and Composition 2018

Texts:

**The Autobiography of Malcolm X* as told to Alex Haley

The Color of Water by James McBride

Dreams from My Father by Barack Obama

Between the World and Me by Ta'Neheisi Coates

*Students will be issued a copy of *Malcolm X* before they leave for the summer. Students should then choose and obtain their own copy of one of the other readings.

