

AP English Language and Composition 2010 Summer Assignment for Ms. Hott and Mrs. Simmons

County guidelines state that the summer assignment may count as only one homework grade. However, you should complete this assignment seriously and carefully in order to be better prepared for AP English Language and Composition.

Read this work of fiction:

The Catcher in the Rye by J. D. Salinger for first semester. While the course focuses primarily on nonfiction texts, this work is frequently alluded to in nonfiction.

Read the following nonfiction book:

Bird by Bird by Anne Lamott
Annotate three chapters of *Bird by Bird*.

Bring your *Bird by Bird* to class on the first day after Labor Day, along with *The Catcher in the Rye*.

Read, enjoy, and be prepared to talk about what you read.

Use the online databases available through *broadneck.org* or *aacpl.net* to locate, print out, and read an article that relates to one of the essential questions posed in one of the units listed below. (Usernames and passwords are listed on page 19 of last year's agenda. For example, the username for NewsBank is *anne* and the password is *Arundel*; for EBSCO, *bhs* and *annearundel*; for Issues and Controversies, *broadhs* and *facts*.) Type up a paragraph explaining how this article fits into one particular unit.

Unit 1: The Power of Language

How does language convince and change the individual and society? How does language empower and liberate, dominate and subjugate? How does mastery of language equalize power?

Unit 2: Becoming an Informed Citizen

What is an informed citizen? How do you become an informed citizen? How do presentation and perception of information affect the individual and the citizenry?

Unit 3: Language, Wealth, and Justice

What role does language play in asserting justice? Does wealth presuppose earthly justice?

Unit 4: Elements of Beauty

What is beauty? What is the relationship between beauty and empowerment?

If you have questions about the summer assignment, you may e-mail one of us:

khott@aacps.org or rsimmons@aacps.org

Don't wait until Labor Day! Have an invigorating summer!

What does it mean to annotate?

When you annotate a text, you mark the page of the book, passage, or poem as you read. Note what you think is important, what you think a passage mean, and what ideas, associations, and questions surface. The act of marking the page makes it more likely that you'll read closely and attentively.

Annotation is not simply highlighting the text. You must record on the page your reactions to the text. You can do this by:

- highlighting or underlining key words and sentences
- bracketing important passages
- connecting related ideas with lines
- circling words to be defined
- placing an asterisk (*) beside something unusual, special, or important

In the margins, you might record:

- questions you have
- connections you see
- your own explanations of key concepts
- your evaluation of ideas presented
- brief comments