

English III AP Summer Assignments

Welcome to AP Language and Composition! I applaud you on your decision to undertake what is sure to be both a challenging and rewarding experience. This course is taught as a college-level rhetoric course, and as such, it includes a significant workload, especially with regard to reading and writing outside of class. Be prepared to schedule reading into your nightly study time and to receive frequent writing assignments. These summer assignments are modified from those of national AP teachers, ensuring that you begin on the right foot to score competitively on the exam. We will hit the ground running at the beginning of the year, so it would be best for you to complete the assignments by the first day of class. Happy reading! 😊

The **two** required summer assignments are:

1. Thematic Annotations of *Fahrenheit 451*—**DUE Monday, August 14th**
2. Current Events Portfolio—**DUE Tuesday, August 22nd**

ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

Current Events Portfolio

As part of your preparation for the AP exam, you will be required to keep up with the news (local, state, national, and international). You will summarize the news, share your own views on the news, and do an analysis of the article you've read in a weekly assignment. You will need to complete **eight** article analyses by Tuesday, August 22nd. Follow the instructions below to complete each analysis.

Article Requirements

- The news article you read must be current (within a year or so of publication).
- You are required to clip out a hard copy of the article (Original, printed from the website, or photocopied are all acceptable.)
- You **must** highlight and annotate the article for each analysis. Attach this annotated article to the written requirement.
 - NOTE: If you do not have access to a printer, you may copy the text of the article into a word document and annotate it there, but you must also include the link to the article in the document.

Analysis Requirements (One analytical response due for each article—eight total)

- 1) *Heading*: title of article, author, source, date published, subject area (see explanation beneath the written requirement instructions for more details about the subject area)

- 2) *Summary*: (50 word minimum)
 - a) Write a brief summary of the article. Try to understand the entirety of the article and provide a synopsis in your own words. Avoid using the same phrasing and same presentation of facts. Use indirect quotes as needed.
- 3) *Analysis*: (100 word minimum)
 - a) Provide an analysis of the authorial choices: writing style, voice, headline, order/structure, word choices and their connotations. Tell how the choices made by the author affect the person reading the article, or how those choices affect the way the subject might be perceived. Is there bias? Be specific and focused; you don't have to analyze everything. Just choose one thing to closely analyze.
- 4) *Personal Response*: (100 word minimum)
 - a) What is your own personal takeaway from the news article? What new insights did you glean from reading the article? How do you connect to the issue? Did you have an emotional response to the news?

Each of your articles must come from a different source (but you can use two sources twice if you'd like!), and you must also choose articles in different subject areas. Subject areas may only be used once. You can use the checklist below to make sure that you are covering each of the requirements. You can fulfill these requirements in any order, and you only need to use eight of the topics listed below.

Date:	LIST OF SUBJECTS	Date	LIST OF SOURCES
	Sports		
	Environmental		
	Fashion		
	Science/Technology		
	Business		
	Literature/Language		
	Performing Arts		
	Human Interest		
	Politics/Gov't (International)		
	Politics/Gov't (National)		

List of Recommended News Sources

The New York Times, Washington Post, Boston Globe, Fox News, Chicago Tribune, LA Times, The Atlantic, The New Yorker, Vanity Fair, Vogue, Rolling Stone, The Economist, Time Magazine, The Wall Street Journal, National Geographic, NPR

*Other sources are acceptable, but they **must** be reputable. If a source is particularly biased, you should mention that in your analysis. Use your best judgment when selecting a source. Avoid clickbait articles.*

Fahrenheit 451 Annotation Instructions:

You will need to purchase a copy of Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*, which you will then annotate thematically. In your annotations, you will do three things: highlight, label, and explain. **Make a key for your annotations in the front cover of your book.**

1. **Choose one color of highlighter for each of the following theme ideas.** Anywhere you see things that contribute to these themes, highlight them in the color specified in your key and make a short note in the margin explaining the significance of what you highlighted.
 - Progress as dangerous or harmful
 - The “thinking” man vs. society
 - Reason as a weapon
 - The natural world
2. **Underline characterization of the following characters, labeling in the margin with an abbreviation of their names.** Keep a list of traits and the page numbers where you found them separately on a sheet of paper or an index card, which you will tape into your book upon submitting for grading.
 - Guy Montag
 - Clarisse
 - Beatty
 - Faber
3. Short summaries for every chapter (1-2 sentences, written in the book at the end of the chapter)
4. Mark diction, syntax, figurative language, and point of view with another mark of your choosing (circle, brackets, another color of highlighter, etc.)

All four of these things should be included in your key, and when I grade your book, your key should be clear enough that I can grade your annotations accordingly. If writing your explanations in the margin is too difficult, or if the margins are too small, you may use the Annotation Sheet method or the Post-It Note method, outlined below.

- **Annotation sheet method:**
 - Students who use an annotation sheet still highlight in the book, but instead of writing their annotations in the margins, they number them. Then, they have a sheet of handwritten or typed commentary that are numbered to correspond with the highlighted sections.
- **Post-it note method:**
 - Students who use the post-it note method still highlight in the book. Then they either use full adhesive post-it notes on the directly on the page or they use page markers or tabs at the edge of the pages.

If you have questions or would like to see examples of different types of annotations, please email me! I can clarify more fully if you have questions, and I have lots of examples I can show you, including annotated books from previous students.