

AP Language and Composition Summer Assignment

Welcome to AP Language and Composition! This summer, find ways to tune into the news. AP Language is all about thinking and writing critically about a wide range of topics and current events, and there are so many ways to do it: Follow news outlets on your social media channels. Watch news shows on regular TV or streaming services. Listen to it as a podcast. Read it in a physical newspaper or set up Google News. Subscribe to a free email service like The Skimm or The Week. Just seeing headlines will allow you to come to class more informed.

Your assignment this summer is to expand your knowledge of others' opinions. Use the questions for reflection.

Complete the assignment sheet below. It must be handwritten, and you will turn in on the first day of class.

Questions? Email Mrs. Bowden: nbowden@rutherfordschools.org

Journalism	Read three opinion articles from a major news source from within the past year. If you go to their websites, you will find a category called OPINIONS in the menu. Here is a good example. Choose "columnist," not letters or editorials. You will see written opinions on all kinds of topics. Pick THREE to read.	Reflect on <u>each</u> opinion article: • Give the title of the piece, author, and a brief summary. • What is the author's claim? • How do they support this claim? • What did you notice about the writing that was effective or persuasive? • Do you agree with the writer? Why or why not?
Podcast	You can access podcasts from Apple, Spotify, or other music streaming services. There are thousands to choose from. Choose one Podcast about current events/ current issues and listen to at least 3 episodes of it. A few examples: <i>Up First (NPR)</i> <i>The Daily (New York Times)</i> <i>The Journal (Wall Street Journal)</i> <i>Science Vs</i> <i>Ridiculous History</i> <i>This American Life</i> <i>TED Talks Daily</i> <i>Planet Money</i> <i>Acquired</i> <i>The President's Daily Brief</i>	In your reflections: • Give the title of the Podcast and a brief summary of what your episodes are about. • Podcasts can't be boring or they won't be successful. Producers hire good speakers, provide music, humor, sound effects, and other devices to engage their listeners. What specific choices do the podcast producers make to create an engaging podcast? • Did you enjoy your episodes? Why or why not?
Documentary Film	Google "best documentaries" and you will get lists of the newest ones on streaming services and also classic documentaries that have stood the test of time. Choose one full-length (not episodic) documentary you have not seen on a topic having to do with current events/ issues you are not especially familiar with. Please stay away from "true crime."	In your reflections: • Give the title, network, and brief summary of the film. • What is the purpose of this film? How do you know? • What specific choices do the filmmakers make in order to convince or inform you of their purpose? • Did you like the documentary? Why or why not? Explain.

Journalism

Article 1

Title: _____

Author: _____

Summary: _____

What is the author's claim? _____

- How do they support this claim? _____

- What did you notice about the writing that was effective or persuasive? _____

- Do you agree with the writer? Why or why not? _____

Article 2

Title: _____

Author: _____

Summary: _____

What is the author's claim? _____

- How do they support this claim? _____

- What did you notice about the writing that was effective or persuasive? _____

- Do you agree with the writer? Why or why not? _____

Article 3

Title: _____

Author: _____

Summary: _____

What is the author’s claim? _____

- How do they support this claim? _____

- What did you notice about the writing that was effective or persuasive? _____

- Do you agree with the writer? Why or why not? _____

Podcasts

Episode 1

Title: _____

Podcast Name: _____

Summary: _____

What specific choices do the podcast producers make to create an engaging podcast? _____

Did you enjoy your episodes? Why or why not? _____

Episode 2

Title: _____

Podcast Name: _____

Summary: _____

What specific choices do the podcast producers make to create an engaging podcast? _____

Did you enjoy your episodes? Why or why not? _____

Episode 3

Title: _____

Podcast Name: _____

Summary: _____

What specific choices do the podcast producers make to create an engaging podcast? _____

Did you enjoy your episodes? Why or why not? _____

Documentary

Title: _____

Podcast Name: _____

Summary: _____

What is the purpose of this film? How do you know? _____

What specific choices do the filmmakers make in order to convince or inform you of their purpose?

Did you like the documentary? Why or why not? Explain. _____
