

AP Language and Composition Summer Reading Assignment

Chelsea High School
Mrs. Kelli Parramore
kparramore@shelbyed.org

I would like to welcome you to English 11 AP Language and Composition. Primarily a study in both effective writing and critical reading, the course will develop students' appreciation for prose and will focus on analytical and critical thinking skills. Unlike the traditional survey of American literature class, this **college-level course** will use both fiction and nonfiction selections to prepare students for the three-hour Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Students are expected to purchase the required texts and complete all assignments neatly handwritten on loose leaf paper. Submit all work in a three-prong folder. All assignments are due the first week of school.

Required Texts—these books should be read and annotated by the first week of school.

1. *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald
2. *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell

Assignment One

I. Define the following terms from reputable internet sources. For terms with an (*), provide an example from the books or online source. Cite examples parenthetically and place these in your folder.

- | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Rhetoric | 18. *Connotations | 35. *Metonymy |
| 2. Speaker/Author | 19. *Denotation | 34. Mood |
| 3. Claim | 20. *Dialect | 35. Non Sequitur |
| 4. *Purpose | 21. Dilemma | 36. *Oxymoron |
| 5. *Ethos | 22. Dissonance | 37. Paradox |
| 6. *Pathos | 23. Epitaph | 38. *Parallelism |
| 7. *Logos | 24. Fallacy | 39. Point of View |
| 8. Position | 25. *Hyperbole | 40. *Polysyndeton |
| 9. Ad hominem argument | 26. *Idiom | 41. *Rhetorical Question |
| 10. *Analogy | 27. *Imagery | 42. Short Sentences |
| 11. *Anaphora | 28. Inductive Reasoning | 43. Structure |
| 12. Anecdote | 29. Invective | 44. Style |
| 13. *Antecedent | 30. *Irony | 45. Syllogism |
| 14. *Asyndeton | 31. *Jargon | 46. *Synecdoche |
| 15. Chiasmus | 32. Litotes | 47. *Syntax |
| 16. *Cliche | 33. Maxim | 48. Tone |
| 17. Concrete details | 34. *Metaphor | 49. Juxtaposition |
| | | 50. Colloquialism |

Assignment Two

II. Read the following prompt and write a well-developed essay. Your essay must include parenthetical citations and MLA works cited.

Define American Dream

Author James Truslow Adams coined the term “American Dream” in his 1931 book, *The Epic of America*. Adams describes the American Dream as “a land in which life should be better and richer and fuller for everyone, with opportunity for each according to ability or achievement ... It is not a dream of motor cars and high wages merely, but a dream of social order in which each man and each woman shall be able to attain to the fullest stature of which they are innately capable, and be recognized by others for what they are, regardless of the fortuitous circumstances of birth or position.” The status of the American Dream -- whether it’s dead, alive, or on hold -- continues to be debated nearly 90 years later.

After reading *The Great Gatsby*, *Outliers*, and at least one additional source, take a position that discusses the status of the American Dream today. Is it attainable to all? If not, who’s excluded and why?

Suggested additional sources:

- A- *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* or other reputable newspapers
- B. NPR or Podcasts such as *This American Life*, *Porchlight Storytelling Series* and others
- C. Visual Text - Editorial cartoons, photographs or artwork related to the American Dream

MLA Citation and Format Resources:

Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL)- <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>

EasyBib- <http://www.easybib.com/>

Bibme- <http://www.bibme.org/citation-guide/mla>

How do I format this essay?

Essays should have a clear thesis that addresses the prompt and have at least three body paragraphs that then clearly discuss your position on the issue.

Where can I purchase the books?

Each book can be found at your local Barnes and Noble or Books-A-Million. Used books can be purchased at a discounted price at 2nd & Charles, located in Hoover across from the Riverchase Galleria, or on Amazon.com. Please refer to the ISBN number of each book to ensure you are purchasing the correct version. I require that you to have hard copies of the texts. Each text will be used in class and subsequent assessments should be expected.