2015-16
Juniors: AP Language and Composition: Required Summer Reading and Writing

**Purpose:** The purpose of these summer reading and analysis assignments is to keep you reading, analyzing, and thinking over the summer month as well as to introduce you to several foundational documents that we can discuss in common in both AP Language and Composition and AP US History.

The *essay and short answer responses must be written in correct MLA format*. You will be evaluated on what you have previously learned about formatting. If you have any questions go to [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/)

The political cartoon assignment will be put together as a printed booklet.

You may also be asked to respond to specific questions about each of the essays during the first day/week of class – so be prepared.

**Assignment 1:** “The Moral Bucket List” by David Brooks *(short answer response and annotation)*

**Annotation:** Demonstrate your analysis skills. Print out the article and analyze it:

- underline the sentence(s) that you feel makes up the thesis
- circle the words you do not know. Then define them
- circle any diction you find noteworthy.

**Analysis.** Type your answers in MLA format. Skip an extra line after each response.

1. What is the author’s purpose in this essay?
2. What specific rhetorical strategies does he use to achieve that purpose?
3. What did you learn from the article? Go deep here.
4. “I came to the conclusion that wonderful people are made, not born — that the people I admired had achieved an unfakeable inner virtue, built slowly from specific moral and spiritual accomplishments.”

Following this line the author lists six of these accomplishments. List and then briefly explain the significance of each.

5. Pick five specific lines or passages that had meaning to you and explain why you picked it and what you got from it.
Assignment 2: George Washington’s Farewell Address  (essay response)
You will find a copy of this address at

Assignment:
Write an essay that addresses the following
1. What is (are) the purpose(s) of the address?
2. What was the historical context of the address? Quote specific lines to support your analysis of the context
3. Does the speaker attempt to justify, deny, affirm, or otherwise highlight his role in these events? Cite examples.
4. Does he use rhetorical devices such as parallel structure, metaphor, simile, allusion, or hyperbole to enhance his speech? Cite examples. (Definitions of these rhetorical devices are readily available on the Internet.)
5. How does the speaker insure the support of his audience? (Objective evaluation).
6. What makes this an effective speech? (Your personal reaction)
Print out a copy and do a close analysis of the speech. Annotate it carefully. You will turn this in with the essay.

Assignment 3: Editorial Cartoon Analysis  (short answer response and annotation)

1. Collect six editorial cartoons from either the newspaper or the Internet: two by Herblock (Herbert Lawrence Block), two by Thomas Nast, and two cartoons from the past six months.
2. Write an extended paragraph(s) for each where you explain the purpose of each cartoon, what the cartoon is satirizing and how the cartoonist makes the subject humorous for the audience. Remember that satire is the making fun of something serious in order to bring about some kind of change.
3. Organize the cartoons and paragraphs in a Word document

Please also purchase your own copies of Fitzgerald’s The Great Gatsby and Hawthorne’s A Scarlet Letter for class study.

Contact Mr. Jordan at jjordan@sanjuan.edu if you have any questions.