



In order to prepare for AP English Language and Composition, it is necessary for you to practice your critical reading and writing skills. The following \_\_\_\_\_ are designed to give you a glimpse into the types of skills you will need to be successful in the course. \_\_\_\_\_ Most importantly, each assignment requires you to read, write, and think at a college-level.

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If you would like to borrow a book, one can be obtained from the Smithtown Public Library or from the Smithtown High School West English Department Office (631-382-3036) through

As you read, annotate the work by either writing in your own copy or in a composition notebook. Please do not use sticky notes. The AP Language teachers expect you to have thorough annotations/notes for each chapter of the book. When annotating EACH CHAPTER, please consider the following:

- Track the development of characters, conflicts, themes, imagery, etc.
- Reflect on the content; synthesize what is important and why.
- Ask questions—which often helps to clarify meaning.
- Make predictions (inferences) based on textual evidence.
- State opinions and be able to defend those opinions.
- Analyze the author's craft (track location of evidence with chapters and page numbers).
- Make connections to other aspects of the text itself, to other works of literature, and to you and the world around you.
- Reflect on your reading process—how you read and your comprehension.

Your second assignment is to expand your world a bit. Part of being in AP English Language and Composition is being a student of the world. For each category below, choose what you would like to listen to or watch.

You can access podcasts from any streaming service. There are thousands to choose from, but choose one that is “school appropriate” and that you can talk about in a classroom setting.

There is a list of suggested podcasts linked if you need help finding one.

Google “best documentaries,” and you will get lists of the newest ones and also classic documentaries that have

Give me 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? Explain.

