



# EARL WARREN HIGH SCHOOL

9411 Military Drive W. · San Antonio, Texas 78251-1736 · Phone 210-397-4200 · Fax 210-257-4246

Valerie Sisk, *Principal*

Brian Woods, Ed.D., *Superintendent*

## English III A.P. and AP/Dual Credit Summer Reading Assignment: Fall 2018

Welcome to AP Language and Composition/ AP-Dual Credit class! According to the College Board, the AP Language class "...aligns to an introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum, which requires students to develop evidence-based analytic and argumentative essays that proceed through several stages or drafts. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Throughout the course, students develop a personal style by making appropriate grammatical choices. Additionally, students read and analyze the rhetorical elements and their effects in non-fiction texts, including graphic images as forms of text, from many disciplines and historical periods" (College Board). For you to achieve this goal and to succeed in this course, you will need to finish the required preparatory reading and assignments for AP Language and Composition.

### Required Reading:

#### **Gladwell, Malcolm. *Outliers: the Story of Success*. Little, Brown and Co, 2008**

In this stunning book, Malcolm Gladwell takes the readers on an intellectual journey through the world of "outliers"--the best and the brightest, the most famous and the most successful. He asks the question: what makes high-achievers different? And he concludes that .... well, the rest is for you to read. ☺

### Required Assignment:

#### **1. Rhetorical Understanding of *Outliers***

As you read through Gladwell's *Outliers*, identify and note the passages that you think are the most effective parts of Gladwell's argument.

You will write a 500-word essay that answers the following question: **What is Gladwell arguing, and how does he attempt to make his case convincing?**

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In your answer to this question, address how the argument was put together (which rhetorical strategies it uses). You might also consider questions such as:

- How does the author craft his argument?
  - What rhetorical strategies or techniques does he use?
- What is the purpose or effect of the writing strategies or techniques used?
  - How does this make the author convincing or credible?
- How do the strategies attempt to influence the reader's thoughts and feelings?
  - How do the strategies relate to and support the overall argument?
- How is the argument organized?

**Rhetorical Strategies:** As you discuss Gladwell's argument, consider how he employs some of these rhetorical techniques.

-Diction (connotation)

-Rhetorical Questions

-Deductive or Inductive Reasoning

-Analogies

-Rhetorical Appeals (ethos, pathos, logos)

-Figurative Language (metaphor, allusion, paradox, allegory, euphemism, etc.)

## **Writing Reminders:**

- Your response should be typed, double-spaced, and stored as a Google Doc.
- Although you may discuss multiple aspects of Gladwell's argument, you must have a **thesis statement** that controls the overall claim of your response.
  - Here is a sample thesis: "Author X's argument is mainly dependent on emotional appeals, and he uses detailed description and narration to support those emotional appeals." For this thesis, you would then need to go on and explain and give examples of different emotional appeals that use description and narration from the text.
- Remember to include evidence from *Outliers* that illustrates your analysis of Gladwell's argument. Your text evidence must be followed by MLA in-text citations of the text.
  - Here is the Purdue OWL's page on MLA in-text citations:  
<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/02/>

**Due Date:** You must submit an electronic version of this response to your teacher using Google Classroom or turnitin.com by 11:59 pm on Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>.

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