

Summer Reading 2015-2016

AP® English 11

Your Summer Reading:

We live in a world of facts.

For example, with only minor efforts, we can learn many things about the weather, approaching storms, appropriate weather-related technical terms, and other things which allow, seemingly, young children to talk with knowledge heretofore available only to students in college classes in meteorology.

Facts can be fascinating bits of knowledge (like all those things you know from reading the Harry Potter stories); facts can help understanding why you have allergies or why your knee hurts. Facts can inform (like all the reasons why you can't go to college in Hawaii or why you cannot have a new car).

However, facts can weigh down the readability of material assigned for class.

Rhetoric means “the study of effective, persuasive language use.” Aristotle used the word *rhetoric* to describe the “available means of persuasion.” We will use the word *rhetoric* many times in AP English 11, and *rhetoric* is the key term in the College Board’s definition of what AP English 11 is about.

Your summer reading assignment will be an opportunity for you to understand how the use of facts can help or hinder the readability of material. Too many facts can, indeed, ruin the effectiveness of the rhetorical nature of print material.

You will need to read a portion of your summer reading book (Bill Moyers’ book *Moyers on Democracy*. ISBN: 978-0-307-38773-8). We will use most of the remainder of this book for classroom enrichment throughout the school year. You will also need access (print or on-line) to a **reputable** news magazine from which you can find an article in which there is an abundance of facts.

THE ASSIGNMENT

Compare how the use of facts can aid the effectiveness of the presentation of an author’s thoughts.

❖ Read *Moyers on Democracy*:

Chapter 6: In this material, from a speech made at West Point, Moyers uses factual examples to develop his topic. He uses facts gathered from his TV documentaries, from his readings, and from his knowledge of history,

Chapter 8: In this material, from a speech made to college registrars, Moyers uses *many numbers*—the ultimate example of factual information.

❖ Read an article from a reputable news magazine in which facts are used in abundance to convey the author’s purpose.

Print-out or copy this article, and attach it to your final paper.

Develop your list of 3 to 5 purposes which are **shared in common** (in the above 3 works) to make the use of facts effective in conveying the authors’ purposes in writing. For example, you might find that facts serve the purposes of **providing a foundation for the reader’s understanding, documenting the process by which something happened**, or some other reasons which YOU believe are shared in the resources you have read. (A perusal of your *Back to the Lake* textbook may help you to understand the meaning of *purpose*).

This assignment should be 5 pages long (no longer than 7 pages) and should be in correct academic form (double-spaced, Times Roman type, 1-inch margins on all sides, etc.) You should document direct quotations **and paraphrases** used in your paper. Plagiarism will result in a grade of zero. Documentation should be MLA in-text format used on your research paper.

Feel free to come to one of the strictly optional “study sessions” during the Summer: 11am -12pm June 25th &/or 11am-12 pm July 9th.

Name: _____

Grading Rubric
6+ format
<i>This assignment is a 200-point grade, with the points being distributed as indicated below:</i>
Synthesis
<u> </u> /25 points to include ◇Correct use of appropriate documentation in appropriate form ◇Seamless insertion of documented materials so as not to detract from readability, including the use of documented paraphrases ◇Good use of documented research to support the paper
Exigence
see Grading Rubric in the Syllabus <u> </u> / 125 points to include ◇paper is clear & focused; holds reader's attention ◇organization enhances and showcases the central theme, is compelling, & moves the reader through the text ◇presented in a voice and tone appropriate to the audience, engages the craft of writing to respect the purpose for writing ◇proper use of unity, coherence, and emphasis once the thesis has been presented ◇words convey the intended message, are powerful and engaging; good use of transitions and other organizational elements ◇sentences underscore & enhance the meaning of the paper; appropriate vocabulary for a formal theme, good syntax, appropriate attention to the rhetorical situation
Conventions
<u> </u> /50 points ◇writer adheres to standard writing conventions, including grammatical accuracy based on the Easy Writer 5th Edition text assigned for class <u> </u> x 1= - <u> </u> x 5=- <u> </u> ◇writer uses conventions to enhance readability ◇paragraphing reinforces sound organizational structure
Notice
◇This sheet must be attached to the paper when submitted. Failure to do so will result in a 25-point deduction

All papers and materials are due at the beginning of class on August 18th, 2015.