



First Academy Leesburg AP Language and Composition

Pre-Requisite Summer Reading Assignment 2016

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While working through summer reading, please feel free to email me with questions you may have. Know that I will be spending a great deal of time with my family this summer and will only check my email a few times a week. But have no fear—I will get back to you.☺

As you work on your summer reading, use fully expressed ideas to finish all of the following assignments. In other words, advanced placement classes are conducted at a collegiate level. Your ideas should not be expressed in sentence fragments or with unsupported assertions. **Assignment is due the first day of class.** Extended time will be given to those registering late.

1. Read *How do You Kill 11 Million People?* by Andy Andrews (ISBN: 0849948355) – Don't panic☺ This is an incredibly short book that packs a powerful punch. It will force you to consider the value of truth and the role it plays in how a nation is persuaded.
 - a. After reading the book, answer each of the following questions with 150 words or more **TYPED** using evidence from your book as support:
 - i. Why do these civilizations all seem to follow the same identifiable sequence—from bondage to spiritual faith, from spiritual faith to courage, from courage to liberty, from liberty to abundance, from abundance to complacency, from complacency to apathy, from apathy to dependence, and finally from dependence back into bondage?
 - ii. Is there really any power in one's intentions anyway?
 - iii. What truth would be a starting point for telling the difference?
2. Read *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom (any publication)
 - a. Choose a life lesson taught by Morrie you **DO NOT** agree with. Then in a **TYPED** essay (500 words or more) develop an argument as to why you disagree with Morrie.
 - b. Within your argument, be sure to use sources outside of the Bible. In AP Language, we will learn how to argue our opinions with a world that does not believe in Biblical truths. Ultimately, this will begin our journey in understanding how to use rhetoric to argue Biblical truths to an unbelieving world.
3. Read *Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis (ISBN: 0-06-065292-6 or any other publication) – AP Language studies the art of persuasion or rhetoric. One form of Christian rhetoric is that of apologetics—a formal defense for our faith. *Mere Christianity* is a well respected example of apologetics.
 - a. **This book will be challenging. Please know I want you to grapple with the text, but will not expect full comprehension. This will be a book you may want to read a bit at a time and not attempt to accomplish within the span of one weekend.**
 - b. As you read *Mere Christianity* you will need to keep a reading journal identifying points in the book which stand out to you as significant statements during your reading.
 - c. Your reaction should merit a collegiate response. Phrases or one-sentence reflections will

not be enough to meet those expectations. Your reaction need not answer every question. Those provided below are simply to help prompt you.

- d. Please follow the format below. **Your journal MUST BE TYPED.** The book is divided into four “books.” You will need five entries or quotes per book for a total of 20 entries.

Page #	Chapter	Significant Statement	Your Reaction—Why is this quote significant? Why did it stand out to you? Did it challenge you to think differently? How? What questions does it raise for you?
4	1	Quarrelling means trying to show that the other man is in the wrong. And there would be no sense in trying to do that unless you and he had some sort of agreement as to what Right and Wrong are; just as there would be no sense in saying that a footballer had committed a foul unless there was some agreement about the rules of football.	When I face moments where I must defend my faith to the world, I must understand we will never come to an agreement without some fundamental similarities. If the basis of my morals is found in Biblical truths and my opponent’s moral compass is founded upon just wanting to be a “good person,” we may never come to an agreement. We play by different rules. Knowing this, what do I need to do in order to effectively persuade the world to believe in my Jesus?