

AP English Language and Composition Summer Reading Assignment

Part 1: Thank You for Arguing: What Aristotle, Lincoln, and Homer Simpson Can Teach Us About the Art of Persuasion: Jay Heinrichs, 4th Edition

Assignment

You must complete each of the following tasks for each of the first 5 chapters of Thank You for Arguing. Be sure to respond to each task thoroughly and completely; your responses will count as a test grade for the first term. You should make sure your ideas are both organized and presented clearly and thoroughly. Please keep in mind that this is an AP class; therefore, I expect well-developed responses. *This is an independent reading assignment.

What to Do:

Complete the following tasks and make sure that your products look like the examples provided. In the end, you will have completed the following steps a total of 5 times.

1. Choose any rhetorical concept that Heinrichs explores in each of the first 5 chapters of the book. You have free reign here. Identify the chapter and the concept on which you would like to focus.

E.g. Chapter 3: Arguing with Past-Tense Verbs

2. Summarize-do not directly quote-the concept as presented in the text and follow that summary with a parenthetical citation. Follow this format: summary of concept in your OWN words (Heinrichs page#).

E.g. Forensic rhetoric relies on past-tense verbs. It usually places blame on an individual (Heinrichs 28-29).

3. Find a real-world example of the concept in action-please note, however, your example must be text based; no pictures or visuals. (You may use speeches, but you must make sure they have transcripts so you can copy the text from it and provide citation)

E.g. "Good morning, everybody. At midnight last night, for the first time in 17 years, Republicans in Congress chose to shut down the federal government. Let me be more specific: One faction, of one party, in one house of Congress, in one branch of government, shut down major parts of the government -- all because they didn't like one law. This Republican shutdown did not have to happen. But I want every American to understand why it did happen. Republicans in the House of Representatives refused to fund the government unless we defunded or dismantled the Affordable Care Act. They've shut down the government over an ideological crusade to deny affordable health insurance to millions of Americans. In other words, they demanded ransom just for doing their job."

Obama, Barack. "Statement on the U.S. Government Shutdown." Washington DC, Washington DC. 2 Oct. 2013. AmericanRhetoric. Web. 12 June 2016.

Sample Assignment

Below is a complete example of what you need to do for each chapter: (Your work should be formatted exactly like this!)

1. Chapter 3: Arguing with Past-Tense Verbs

2. Forensic rhetoric relies on past tense verbs. It usually places blame on an individual (Heinrichs 28-29).

3. "Good morning, everybody. At midnight last night, for the first time in 17 years, Republicans in Congress chose to shut down the federal government. Let me be more specific: One faction, of one party, in one house of Congress, in one branch of government, shut down major parts of the government -- all because they didn't like one law. This Republican shutdown did not have to happen. But I want every American to understand why it did happen. Republicans in the House of Representatives refused to fund the government unless we defunded or dismantled the Affordable Care Act. They've shut down the government over an ideological crusade to deny affordable health insurance to millions of Americans. In other words, they demanded ransom just for doing their job."

Obama, Barack. "Statement on the U.S. Government Shutdown." Washington DC, Washington DC. 2 Oct. 2013. AmericanRhetoric. Web. 12 June 2016. 4.

In the example from Obama's address about the government shut down, he consistently presents past tense verbs such as chose, refused, demanded, etc. The purpose of such is to vilify the republicans of the House in the presence of the public. Once the blame is placed on those individuals, it is the hope of Obama that the general public will demand social justice from those who represent them. In his blame, he paints those who instigated the shut down as individuals who are obstinate and unconcerned with the general healthcare of all individuals. In fact, these representatives seem mostly apathetic towards those they represent. Furthermore, in blaming the republicans, Obama makes himself—and his party—seem more innocent in the escalation of events that have led to a government shutdown

Part 2: Select and read a memoir of your choice. Your memoir must be from among these titles or approved by Ms. Wunder or Sr. Edith Augustine by June 1st.

Memoirs to consider:

- My Grandfather's Son by Clarence Thomas (highly recommended by Sr. Edith Augustine)
- He Leadeth Me by Walter Ciszek (highly recommended by Mr. Nulton and Fr. Sappington)
- The Long Loneliness by Dorothy Day
- Long Walk to Freedom by Nelson Mandela,
- The Seven Storey Mountain by Thomas Merton,
- From Fire by Water by Sohrab Ahmari
- The Mary Pages by Sally Read
- Autobiography of Davy Crockett

- Milestones by Pope Benedict XVI
 - The Owl of Minerva: a Memoir by Mary Midgley
 - Memoirs by Jozef Cardinal Mindszenty
 - A Severe Mercy by Sheldon Vanauken,
 - I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai
 - A Full Life by Jimmy Carter
 - A Right to Be Merry by Mother Mary Francis
 - Warriors Don't Cry by Melba Pattillo Beals
 - The Price to Pay: A Muslim Risks All to Follow Christ by Joseph Fabelle
 - Fragments of My Life by Catherine de Hueck Doherty,
 - The Road of Hope by Nguyen Van Thuan
 - Son of Hamas by Mosab Hassan Yousef
 - The Hiding Place by Cory Ten Boom
 - Studying with Miss Bishop by Dana Gioia
- You need to show an active reading strategy throughout the entire book and should have no less than 40 annotations (post-its or margin notes) for the following: word choice (diction), tone, sentence structure, audience, context, purpose, speaker, appeals and other things interesting to you.
 - Be prepared to share your reading with the class the first week of school! Our first project is related to your memoir of choice.