

AP English Language 2018-2019 Summer Assignment

Contact Information

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Part One: *Thank You for Arguing*

Due: the first day of school, August 6th

Purpose

The main purpose of this assignment is to familiarize you with the elements of rhetoric, which includes the art of persuasion and argumentation. It is important that you have a thorough understanding of these elements as they will form the basis of the entire AP Language and Composition course.

Assignment Details

Read the following chapters from the book *Thank You for Arguing* by Jay Heinrichs: chapters 1-17, 25, and 26 (also, the glossary is helpful). Make sure you purchase the revised edition (2013). The ISBN is 978-0-385-34775-4.

We recommend that you annotate the book as you read. Be prepared for a test the first week of school.

Part Two: *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*

Due: the first day of school, August 6th

Purpose

The main purpose of this assignment is to see how rhetoric and argumentation work in a foundational American work. We will use this book extensively throughout the first part of the course.

Assignment Details

Read *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*. You must purchase a NEW copy of the book, and you must purchase the Barnes and Noble edition. The ISBN is 978-1-59308-041-9. Make sure you read the book carefully and thoroughly. Consider reading the book twice if you have time. You do not need to annotate the book at this time.

You will have a test over the book the **first day** of school.

You will also have a test over the rhetorical strategies and tone words (see below) during the first week of school. These will be application-based tests.

Rhetorical Strategies

Rhetorical strategies are techniques all writers use for a particular effect. All writers use rhetorical strategies to help them express ideas and evoke responses in their readers.

Device	Definition	Function
analogy	A similarity or comparison between two different things or the relationship between them. An analogy can explain something unfamiliar by associating it with or pointing out its similarity to something more familiar.	to make a pointed comparison, often a very powerful comparison; to make writing more vivid, imaginative, or intellectually engaging
Metaphor/simile	A figure of speech using implied comparison of seemingly unlike things or the substitution of one for the other, suggesting some similarity.	to make a pointed comparison, often a very powerful comparison; to make writing more vivid, imaginative, thought provoking, and meaningful
hyperbole	A figure of speech using deliberate exaggeration or overstatement. Hyperboles often have a comic effect; however, a serious effect is also possible.	to provoke a response, to cast something in a strong light; often, hyperbole produces irony
understatement	The ironic minimizing of fact, understatement presents something as less significant than it is. The effect can frequently be humorous and emphatic. Understatement is the opposite of hyperbole.	to spark the reader's imagination, or make a pointed observation
imagery	The sensory details of figurative language used to describe, arouse emotion, or represent abstractions. On a physical level, imagery uses terms related to the five senses. On a broader and deeper level, one image can represent more than one thing.	to illustrate an idea, a feeling, or the particular qualities of something; to produce a feeling or an idea; on the AP exam, pay attention to <i>how</i> an author creates imagery and to the effect of this imagery
alliteration	The repetition of sounds, especially initial consonant sounds in two or more neighboring words.	to create a memorable phrase; to reinforce meaning, unify ideas, supply a musical sound, and/or echo the sense of the passage
allusion	A direct or indirect reference to something which is presumably commonly known, such as an event, book, myth, place, or work of art. Allusions can be historical, literary, religious, topical, or mythical.	to lend authority to an idea, to make an association with something the reader knows
anaphora	One of the devices of repetition in which the same expression (word or words) is repeated at the beginning of two or more lines, clauses, or sentences.	to create a memorable, powerful effect, to reinforce an idea
repetition	The duplication, either exact or approximate, of any element of language, such as a sound, word, phrase, clause, sentence, or grammatical pattern.	to create a memorable, powerful effect, to reinforce an idea
parallelism	Also referred to as parallel construction or parallel structure, it refers to the grammatical or rhetorical framing of words, phrases, sentences, or paragraphs to give structural similarity. This can involve, but is not limited to, repetition of a grammatical element such as a preposition or verbal phrase.	to create a memorable, powerful effect, to reinforce an idea; to act as an organizing force to attract the reader's attention, add emphasis and organization, or simply provide a musical rhythm.
tone	Similar to mode, tone describes the author's attitude toward his material, the audience, or both.	to communicate an attitude towards the subject
undertone	An attitude that may lie under the ostensible tone of the piece. Under a cheery surface, for example, a work may have threatening undertones.	to communicate an attitude towards the subject that cuts beyond the attitude that appears on the surface
connotations	The nonliteral, associative meaning of a word; the implied, suggested meaning. Connotations may involve ideas, emotions, or attitudes	to cast the subject in a particular light, to imply
Apostrophe	A figure of speech that directly addresses an absent or imaginary person or a personified abstraction, such as liberty or love. It is an address to someone or something that cannot answer.	To add familiarity or emotional intensity

Diction	Related to style, diction refers to the writer's word choices, especially with regard to their correctness, clearness, or effectiveness	Helps create an author's style; for the AP exam, you should be able to describe an author's diction (for example, formal or informal, ornate or plain) and understand the ways in which diction can complement the author's purpose
irony	The contrast between what is stated explicitly and what is really meant. The difference between what appears to be and what actually is true.	to convey complexity; used to create poignancy or humor
paradox	A statement that appears to be self-contradictory or opposed to common sense but upon closer inspection contains some degree of truth or validity	to point out an apparent contradiction
anecdote	A short narrative dealing with particulars of an interesting episode or event. The term most frequently refers to an incident in the life of a person.	to provide a concrete example or humanize an abstract concept
Metonymy/Synecdoche	A figure of speech in which the name of one object is substituted for that of another closely associated with it/a substitution of a part for a whole	To carry a more potent emotional impact
satire	A work that targets human vices and follies or social institutions and conventions for reform or ridicule. It can be recognized by the many devices used effectively by the satirist: irony, wit, parody, caricature, hyperbole, understatement, and sarcasm.	to ridicule and inspire reform; good satire, often humorous, is thought provoking and insightful about the human condition
sarcasm	Sarcasm involves bitter, caustic language that is meant to hurt or ridicule someone or something	to ridicule or criticize; when done well, sarcasm can be witty and insightful; when poorly done, it's simply cruel
invective	An emotionally violent, verbal denunciation or attack using strong, abusive language	to ridicule, chastise, or convey contempt
Parody	A work that closely imitates the style or content of another with the specific aim of comic effect and/or ridicule. As comedy, parody distorts or exaggerates distinctive features of the original. As ridicule, it mimics the work by repeating and borrowing words, phrases, or characteristics in order to illuminate weaknesses in the original.	To offer enlightenment about the original
Personification	A figure of speech in which the author presents or describes concepts, animals, or inanimate objects by endowing them with human attributes or emotions	to make the abstractions, animals, or objects appear more vivid to the reader
Style	An evaluation of the sum of the choices an author makes in blending diction, syntax, figurative language, and other literary devices.	To help convey an author's purpose; we can analyze and describe an author's personal style and make judgments on how appropriate it is to the author's purpose.
Symbol/symbolism	Anything that represents itself and stands for something else; usually a symbol is something concrete-such as an object, action, character, or scene-that represents something more abstract.	To draw attention to an abstraction; on the AP exam, try to determine what abstraction an object is a symbol for and to what extent it is successful in representing that abstraction.
Syntax	The way an author chooses to join words into phrases, and sentences.	To produce a specific effect

AP Language & Composition Tone Words

Positive

lighthearted	confident	amused	complimentary	amiable
relaxed	soothing	jubilant	encouraging	reverent
hopeful	cheery	elated	passionate	whimsical
romantic	calm	enthusiastic	elevated	exuberant
optimistic	sympathetic	proud	fanciful	appreciative
consoling	ecstatic	jovial	loving	compassionate
friendly	pleasant	brave	joyful	energetic

Negative

angry	wrathful	threatening	agitated	obnoxious
insulting	choleric	disgusted	bitter	accusing
arrogant	quarrelsome	surly	outraged	irritated
condemnatory	belligerent	disgruntled	furios	indignant
inflammatory	aggravated	brash	testy	

Humor/Irony/Sarcasm

scornful	bantering	disdainful	irreverent	condescending
pompous	mocking	ridiculing	wry	sarcastic
taunting	cynical	insolent	patronizing	whimsical
malicious	droll	critical	ironic	facetious
flippant	mock-heroic	teasing	quizzical	comical
satiric	amused	sardonic	contemptuous	caustic
ribald	irreverent			

Sorrow/Fear/Worry

somber	mournful	concerned	morose	hopeless
remorseful	poignant	melancholy	solemn	fearful
pessimistic	grave	staid	ominous	sad
serious	despairing	sober	solemn	resigned
horror	disturbed	apprehensive	gloomy	foreboding
mournful	regretful			

Neutral

formal	objective	questioning	learned	authoritative
disbelieving	sentimental	pretentious	apathetic	conventional
judgmental	reflective	ceremonial	candid	instructive
factual	incredulous	urgent	fervent	histrionic
callous	forthright	lyrical	sincere	restrained
clinical	matter-of-fact	didactic	shocked	nostalgic
earnest	resigned	contemplative	haughty	objective
detached	admonitory	informative	baffled	reminiscent
patriotic	meditative	intimate	obsequious	