

**AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION  
SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS 2017**

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This energizing course is geared towards students who are curious, motivated, and enjoy a challenge. It is designed as a college level course that provides students with a unique learning experience that prepares them for the rigors of college classes. Time management is paramount in meeting the deadlines for the course, especially for homework and long-term assignments.

AP Language and Composition aids students in becoming more proficient readers so they will become better writers.

**Read the following books:**

*Nickel and Dimed* by Barbara Ehrenreich  
*Scratch Beginnings* by Adam Shepard  
*Writers (on Writing) Collected Essays* from *The New York Times*

AP Language and Composition emphasizes critical thinking strategies that incorporate rhetoric, evaluation, analysis, and reflection.

**View the documentary *Inequality for All*- Robert Reich**

**Directions:** Type each of the following assignments in size 12 font.

**1. The Power of Words**

AP Language and Composition focuses on elevated, sophisticated words that enhance writing and bring it to life. In the documentary *Inequality for All* determine how particular words are given power. Select 5 words from the documentary that are electrically and politically charged and analyze the power of these words in relationship to the themes in the documentary. Utilize quotes and examples from the documentary that define the power these words have and use MLA format for all citations. Create a list of 5 powerful words that we use in our society and explain why they are so potent. Reflect on the power of both sets of words in a well-developed essay.

**Due Date: Tuesday September 5<sup>th</sup> (Homework Grade 20%)**

**2. Current Events**

AP Language and Composition students are expected to be intelligent and engaged citizens of the world. This entails being cognizant of local, national, and world events. Select five current news or feature stories from television or news magazines that you

think Robert Reich would be interested in, then explain how he would respond to each of the stories and the opinions and reactions he would have about what is happening in the story. **Due Date: Tuesday September 19<sup>th</sup> (Project Grade 35%)**

### **3. Ehrenreich Verses Shepard**

AP Language and Composition revolves around controversial issues, focusing on both sides.

Imagine that Barbara Ehrenreich and Adam Shepard are featured in a nationally televised debate.

Create 5 controversial questions to ask both of these authors. Write in-depth answers for each of them, taking into account each person's particular personality and perspective, based on the arguments contained in *Nickel and Dimed* and *Scratch Beginnings*. Write in the voice of each author.

**Due Date: Tuesday October 3rd (Project Grade 35%)**

### **4. Writer's Toolbox**

AP Language and Composition students need a repertoire of strategies for their writer's toolbox to aid in creating college worthy essays. *Writer's (on Writing) Collected Essays* from *The New York Times* will supply you with a collection of writing ideas, strategies, and tools by a variety of famous authors.

Select 5 tools from these essays that you could incorporate into your individual toolbox, explaining why these tools will assist you on your writer's journey. List the name of the essay and author that provided the tool.

**Due Date: Tuesday, October 17th (Test Grade 30 %)**