

AP English Language and Composition
Center for the Humanities
Summer Work
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**All summer work is due the first Monday we return to school.
NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED!**

AP English Language and Composition is a course that emphasizes various types of writing, all of which you will use no matter what college you attend or what major you choose in college. This is a writing intensive course, and we will start the year analyzing argumentative writing, so with this in mind, you will need to complete the following summer assignment. Please do not hesitate to email me if you have any questions as you work this summer.

1. **Your first assignment for AP Language is a reading assignment. You will need to purchase Thank You for Arguing: What Aristotle, Lincoln, and Homer Simpson Can Teach Us About the Art of Persuasion by Jay Heinrichs.** If you are unable to purchase this book, please let me know as soon as possible.
 - A. **Read and annotate** chapters 1-14 of Thank You for Arguing: What Aristotle, Lincoln, and Homer Simpson Can Teach Us About the Art of Persuasion by Jay Heinrichs. **Annotate** the work, marking or highlighting elements of importance and making notes for discussion. We will refer to this book throughout the year.
 - B. **What makes a good argument?:** What were your three biggest takeaways about effective arguments. In **NO MORE** than two paragraphs, summarize what Heinrichs believes must be present in an effective argument and be sure to cite from the text for support.
2. **Today's Music: Junk or Genius?** Now that you have read about how to present an effective argument, I want you to put it into practice.

Writing Assignment:

- A. In a well-written, MLA-formatted, two-page (minimum) typed essay, agree or disagree with the following statement. Reference the rubric to see how your essay will be scored:

"Pop music has been exhausted. The innocence has been exhausted. I think we've lost the ability to be blown away by music." ~Brian Wilson (Founding member of The Beach Boys)

In this essay, use appropriate evidence from your reading, experiences, or observations to support your argument. Using specific, named examples with more-than-adequate logical

and emotional commentary will get you the best grade. Use *Thank You for Arguing* as your guide in crafting a solid argument. See AP Language Essay Rubric for grade requirements.