

East Mecklenburg High School contract for AP Language and Composition 11
Please return this contract on or before the first day of school.

All students and their parent/guardian(s) sign this contract to acknowledge that students and parents are making an informed decision regarding enrollment in AP English.

By registering for AP Language and Composition, I understand and agree to abide by the following:

1. This is a challenging, goal oriented, two semester course for highly motivated students who have a strong desire to engage in the college level skills of concise scholastic writing and close analytical reading of mature works of recognized literary merit.
2. Assignments and papers will be graded on a standard that demands college level academic rigor. Grading will be based on college level achievement in addition to effort.
3. Summer reading assignments are to be completed and submitted on the first day of class. Summer reading assignments will be part of the first semester grade.
4. Class discussions are a significant part of the learning experience. I agree to come prepared for class and to participate in all discussions.
5. **A stellar attendance record is essential for success in AP English. When it is necessary to be absent, I will commit to making up missing work in a timely fashion. Any personal appointments and trips should be scheduled outside of AP English.**
6. The sheer volume and challenging nature of the AP English reading and writing requirements means that I am expected to complete approximately 1 hour of homework per night.
7. I will read demanding literature that will contain content that is mature and which will require my time, commitment, and openness. These works are used as part of the AP English curriculum to develop analytical thinking skills and are selected in accordance with the requirements of the College Board. Because these works are part of a College Board approved syllabus **no substitutions will be made for these works.** A complete reading list and syllabus is posted on the teacher website.
8. Because this a college level course, students will be asked to purchase their summer reading books as well as many of the books that will be read during the course. Please let your teacher know ahead of time if you need financial assistance for these purchases.
9. As part of the course requirements students will be required to use several technology tools that will include Google Applications, podcasts, turnitin.com and other tools.

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I have read the above and understand these expectations. Please print name clearly.

Student Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

I have read the above and I agree to support my student's commitment to AP English.

Parent Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Student Email _____ Parent Email _____

Rhetoric is the art of ruling the minds of men.

Plato

Welcome to Advanced Placement Language and Composition 11. The focus of Advanced Placement Language and Composition 11 is understanding, analyzing, and writing non-fiction prose, connecting fiction prose (drama and novels) to rhetoric and argumentation, and using multiple sources to develop and support your own arguments. The required preparatory reading and assignments for AP Language and Composition 11 includes reading two books on understanding and crafting arguments and reading selections from a newspaper or magazine.

Preparation

1. Obtain a copy of *Thank You For Arguing* by Jay Heinrichs (Second Edition, ISBN: 978d 0d 385d 34775d 4). You must get a copy of the *second* edition. Used copies are available from Amazon or other booksellers like Alibris. The free, pdf, online version is the FIRST addition, which is not acceptable.

Assignment #1

50 points

***Thank You For Arguing* by Jay Heinrichs**

What makes an argument work? Jay Heinrichs' book provides you with insights into the nuts and bolts of persuasion by building on a foundation of classic rhetoric but then linking it to the tricks of the great speakers of history as well as to pop culture. When we return to school, we will examine exemplary writings, figure out what makes them tick, and learn to use these tricks of the trade in your own writing.

Note-taking Assignment for *Thank You For Arguing*

1. You will read the entire book.
2. You will take notes on each chapter in a journal.
3. Make sure you take notes on each chapter individually, labeling your notes clearly with the chapter number.

Assignment #2

Flashcard Assignment for *Thank You For Arguing*

20 points

You will also create a set of flashcards for each chapter you read in *Thank You For Arguing*.

- These flashcards will be created from the rhetorical terms found in bold print and in the side boxes in the margins of the book.
- Write the term neatly on the front of a 3" x 5" index card in large lettering.
- Write the definition on the back.
- NOTE: Your flashcards should be hand written in cursive or hand printed in blue or black ink. Do NOT cut and paste the definitions from an Internet source. Muscle memory helps learning.
- Keep them together either with a rubber band, a card box, or a ring.
- The first flash card should have your name, AP Language and Composition, M. Shields, and room 206. This way, if they are misplaced, they will hopefully find their way home.
- **YOUR FLASHCARDS ARE DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. WE WILL BE WORKING WITH THESE TERMS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. SECURE THEM. YOU CAN EXPECT A QUIZ ON THE TERMS IN THE FIRST WEEK OF CLASSES.**
- The cards will be assessed based upon completion; the quiz will assess you on a percentage of correct responses.

Summer Assignment Rubric

Thank You for Arguing Journal Notes

	<i>Effective (9-10)</i>	<i>Adequate (7-8)</i>	<i>Approaching Standard (5-6)</i>	<i>Inadequate (0-4)</i>
<i>Student notes are thorough and complete. Obvious time and effort has gone into the production of this journal.</i>				
<i>Student notes show insight into the text. Rhetorical strategies are identified clearly.</i>				
<i>The student identifies effective strategies and makes connections to other readings</i>				
<i>Grammar, punctuation and spelling are correct.</i>				
<i>The journal is neat and organized. The specified style of notebook is used. The journal entries are handwritten in blue or black ink.</i>				

Total Score for *Thank You for Arguing* Journal Entries _____/50

Points for *Thank You for Arguing* flashcards (completion) _____/20