

AP Biology Summer Assignment

Dear students,

I am so excited for another year of AP Bio. One nice thing about AP Bio is that you have all had an introductory biology course and have a good background. The class is rigorous but balanced with a great amount of fun. In the past 3 times I have taught the class, more than 94% have passed the AP test. I feel confident that if you are working hard, you will do amazing things.

I want to be careful about loading you up this summer; mental breaks are very important. I am trusting that you will remember some basic principles of chemistry. We start by learning about some organic chemistry (glucose structure for instance) and use that to review some principles of chemistry.

This summer I would like you to read one book about motivation. I do not like busy work; I actually think these books could change your perspective on how you learn and provide a great outlook for college. I can't make you read the whole book, I know there are ways to get around that, but I do think reading the whole book would be valuable for you.

Summer Assignment:

Read one of the following books and write a summary of **three** different psychology/sociology experiments in the book. **See my example template on the next page**

"Grit" by Angela Duckworth

"Drive" by Daniel Pink

"Mindset" by Carol Dweck

All of these books are in our GHS library and can be checked out on or before June 9th.

I will post an assignment on my classroom so you can turn it in when you have finished. We will discuss these on the first day of school.

I am looking forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Lillard

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Website: <https://sites.google.com/sd5.k12.mt.us/lillard-science/ap-biology>

Classroom Code: **ib4p2x2**

(Mr. Lillard's example)

Summary of experimental design which includes a description of variables and controls.
(Reference these in APA format)

Angela Duckworth had West Point cadets take the “Grit Scale” test on the second day of their basic training. The test asked questions that attempted to measure the perseverance and passion of cadets. The results were then compared to their success in the boot camp or whether they dropped out (Duckworth, 2016, p. 9-10).

Results

Those who scored higher on the “Grit Scale” were more likely to persevere through the boot camp. The 71 that dropped out were predicted to drop out based on their answers to the test (Duckworth, 2016, p. 9-10)..

2-3 sentence response answering some of the following:

- How did the results surprise you?
- How do the results challenge the way you have been motivated?
- How do the results challenge the way school currently functions?
- How do the results challenge your own behavior?

I find these results intriguing because the West Point cadets are obviously an elite group of student/athletes. If we assume their intelligence and athletic ability are equal, they should have an equal chance of making it through the rigorous boot camp. These results seem to show that talent is less important than attitude when trying to accomplish a difficult task.