

**AP Language and Composition
2018 Summer Assignment**

1. Obtain and read ALL of the following required texts:

The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne

The Wordy Shipmates by Sarah Vowell

The Mother Tongue by Bill Bryson

2. Register on Turnitin.com with the following information:

CLASS CODE: 18032475

PASSWORD: summer18

3. **Complete and Submit the Summer Writing Assignment on or before Sunday, August 26th at 8pm.**

Text	Purpose	Assessment
<p><i>The Scarlet Letter</i> By Nathaniel Hawthorne</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To provide students with a piece of fiction which contextualizes and sheds light on the Puritans and their culture before reading several nonfiction pieces from that time ● To synthesize a classic American Literature text with a piece of nonfiction in order to establish a purpose in writing both fiction and nonfiction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Comprehension Quiz ● Summer Writing Assignment (Essay Grade)
<p><i>The Wordy Shipmates</i> By Sarah Vowell</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To introduce students to both Puritan tenets and the genre of nonfiction ● To synthesize a piece of nonfiction with classic American Literature text in order to establish a purpose in writing both fiction and nonfiction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Summer Writing Assignment (Essay Grade) ● In Class Discussion (Quiz Grade)
<p><i>The Mother Tongue</i> By Bill Bryson</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To introduce students to the genre of nonfiction ● To set the tone for other texts that students will read throughout the year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In Class Essay during Term I (Essay on AP Rubric)

AP Language and Composition
2018 Summer Writing Assignment

After reading both *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne and *The Wordy Shipmates* by Sarah Vowell, **compose a 2-4 page narrative** that demonstrates a sophisticated and nuanced understanding of **both authors' thematic purposes** that begins with the following line:

Sarah Vowell/Nathaniel Hawthorne (choose one) **looked across the elevator at Sarah Vowell/Nathaniel Hawthorne (choose the other) and asked,**
“What’s in the suitcase?”

The most successful pieces will offer a unique prose style and voice, as well as descriptive language and varied sentence structure. The narrative must illustrate a clear grasp of the texts and authors. In these ways, this is analytical writing, but not in a traditional thesis-essay format. The mood, tone, and structure of the piece are to be determined by you, the writer.

AP Language and Composition – 2018 Summer Assignment

	A	B	C	D	F
Comprehension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Demonstrates a high level of understanding of the assignment and both of the texts -Selects sophisticated topics for analysis -Expertly synthesizes details -Expertly incorporates direct quotes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Demonstrates an understanding of the assignment and both texts -Selects advanced topics -Provides strong analysis of details, with some room for improvement -Sophisticated infusion of direct quotes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Demonstrates basic comprehension of both texts and prompt, possibly with a few errors -Selects adequate topics and offers average comprehension. -Provides adequate analysis, with room for improvement -Adequate use of direct quotes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Errors in comprehension detract from the essay -Essay incompletely addresses prompt -Selects basic topics -Needs to demonstrate stronger critical thinking -Lacking in developmental detail or direct quotes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Essay shows little or no comprehension of the text and/or the prompt -Essay does not demonstrate that the student read the book -Selects pedestrian topics -Please see course instructor
Synthesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Excellent demonstration of analysis of prompt in terms of synthesizing the texts -New, refreshing, emergent thinking. -Interconnected relationship from paragraph to paragraph without repetition. -Offers evidence of reading through astute close-reading and synthesis skill -Critical thinking is exceptional 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Solid analysis of texts within the context of the prompt -Complete answer -Traditional -Critical thinking is strong -Offers some evidence of close-reading and/or synthesis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Not a full analysis of prompt -Vague, superficial, limited answer -Faulty logic or weak connections -Critical thinking is adequate -Essay would improve with closer look at close-read details. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Relies too heavily on plot summary -Incomplete analysis of prompt in terms of the texts -Critical thinking needs substantial improvement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Essay fails to analyze prompt -Limited analysis; mostly plot summary -Concerned about demonstration of critical thinking required for this course. -Please see course instructor.
Narrative Style	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clearly and concisely narrates a story that advances an argument and a persuasive purpose - Expertly blends narration, exposition, description, dialogue, and reflection throughout the essay - Consistently demonstrates deliberate and highly effective diction - Regularly uses rich sensory imagery - Uses a wide variety of syntactical structure to focus the reader on what’s important in the sentence - Varies the length and types of sentences - Proper and effective paragraphing pervades 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Somewhat clearly and concisely narrates a story that advances an argument and a persuasive purpose - Competently blends narration, exposition, description, dialogue, and reflection throughout the essay - Demonstrates deliberate and highly effective diction - Uses rich sensory imagery - Uses a variety of syntactical structure to focus the reader on what’s important in the sentence - Somewhat varies the length and types of sentences - Proper and effective paragraphing pervades 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Narrates with little clarity and conciseness a story that advances an argument and persuasive purpose - Attempts to blend narration, exposition, description, dialogue, and reflection - Demonstrates somewhat deliberate and highly effective diction - Uses sensory imagery - Uses little variety of syntactical structure to focus the reader on what’s important in the sentence - Barely varies the length and types of sentences - Faintly has proper and effective paragraphing pervades 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Narrates without clarity and conciseness a story that advances an argument and persuasive purpose - Does not attempt to blend narration, exposition, description, dialogue, and reflection - Does not demonstrates highly effective diction - Uses limited sensory imagery - Uses little variety of syntactical structure to focus the reader on what’s important in the sentence - Does not varies the length and types of sentences - Does not have proper and effective paragraphing pervades 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fails to narrate a story that advances an argument and persuasive purpose - Does not blend any elements of story writing - Fails to attempt the use of highly effective diction - Fails to include sensory imagery - Complete disregard to syntactical variety - Complete disregard for effective paragraphing
Grammar and Mechanics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Well organized -Mechanically sound -Exceptional, fluid expression -Concise and effective -Expert, academic diction -No errors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Essay demonstrates a solid understanding of organization, structure, and mechanics, possibly with a few errors -Mechanically sound -Expression is effective -Diction use is mostly sophisticated. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Adequately conveys the writer’s thoughts, but still has errors in structure, organization, and mechanics -Expression could be improved -Some academic vocabulary, but needs improvement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Recurrent errors -Weak control over elements of grammar, word choice or structure -Weak command of diction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Essay does not follow standard English conventions -Such a brief answer that writing cannot be assessed -Vocabulary needs improvement -Please see course instructor.

