

AP LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION

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Summer REHUGO Challenge

Welcome to AP Language and Composition. I am looking forward to your participation in this challenging, thought-provoking, and intensive study of the art of rhetoric and the development and evaluation of effective argument - starting with your summer study.

One of the major goals of the AP Language and Composition course is for the instruction to help facilitate informed citizenship. According to the College Board, this course “serves the larger goal of cultivating the critical literacy skills students need for lifelong learning. Beyond their academic lives, students should be able to use the literacy skills practiced in the course for personal satisfaction and responsible engagement in civic life” (College Board 2014).

This assignment is a fact-gathering, critical thinking challenge to broaden your knowledge of the world around you. It is designed to help you build your personal foundation by gathering high-quality information which you will then have as you develop and support your own arguments and think critically about the arguments of others. Ultimately, all argument is based on evidence, which might include facts, statistics, expert testimony, examples, anecdotes, or other appeals to our beliefs and needs. Effective argument relies on a variety of evidence. The better informed you are, the more evidence you have at your disposal when you need it (like, for example, when taking the AP Language exam or trying to convince your parents that you should be able to do that thing you really want to do). So what exactly does REHUGO mean?

R = reading

E = entertainment

H = history

U = universal concepts/truths

G = government & current events

O = observations & personal experiences

YOUR FIRST TIMED WRITE OF THE YEAR, WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL, WILL BE AN ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY.

You will use evidence from **at least three different REHUGO activities** to support your claim. You will do these activities over the summer to prepare to answer this prompt. **Effective arguments use a variety of sources, so your evidence needs to come from different letters of the REHUGO acronym.**

How do I prove I have accomplished a REHUGO activity?

STEP 1: Write a 1-2 paragraph summary/explanation of the source. **FYI:** a paragraph in AP Language should consist of **at least 8 well-crafted sentences**.

STEP 2: Write a 1-2 paragraph response/reflection/explanation that explores your learning, emotional/intellectual response, or the personal/universal significance of the source. Questions to consider:

- What do I know/understand now that I didn't before?
- How did this experience change the way I think about something?
- What is a thought, idea, or perspective that I might not have considered if I hadn't encountered this material?
- How can I connect this material to something I already know about?
- How will this source help me with the essay I will have to write in the first week of school?

STEP 3: Submit your responses to turnitin.com no later than August 1, 2019 at 11:59 pm.

Turnitin.com class id: 21227840

Password: 20Hornets20

- If you do not submit your responses by the due date/time, you will start the year with a 0% F. Please be judicious with your time and don't wait until the last day to try to complete this project. Apathy and procrastination are quite apparent in last minute work.

While I am asking for you to do at minimum three different REHUGO activities, remember that this project is about your own personal foundation, and not really about the grade. The more foundation building you do, the more you will set yourself up for success in this class and in life beyond high school. Specifically, the more evidence you gather, the more prepared you'll be for the first timed write of the year.

DO YOUR OWN INTERPRETIVE WORK! The use of film versions or study guides (SparkNotes, Shmoop, etc.) as a replacement for reading books are not acceptable. Put your own thought into the pieces and you'll get much more out of it, as that is the true goal here: *to get educated*.

The subsequent pages will offer some suggestions for completing each of the REHUGO activities. These are merely suggestions - if you have another source you'd like to explore, use your best judgment. However, do not simply take a shortcut; it completely defeats the purpose of what we're trying to accomplish here. Consider what Olympic gold medalist Apolo Anton Ohno once said:

“We all naturally want to become successful... we also want to take shortcuts. And it's easy to do so, but you can never take away the effort of hard work and discipline and sacrifice.”

So exercise some hard work and discipline in this venture, and it will pay off. Invest in your education, yet have some fun with this: you have choice in your education (for once!) - make it count!

R (Reading)

Fiction: free choice, kind of. You are limited to this [list](#) of potential novels/plays that you could use on the AP Literature exam. ***YOU MAY NOT SELECT A BOOK YOU'VE ALREADY READ.***

Nonfiction: free choice, within reason. Choose a book on a topic that interests you, not one whose covers aren't that far apart. There are countless books on endless subjects; consider what topic you'd like to know more about and explore that. Here is a [list](#) of potential nonfiction books, but it is only a suggestion. If you have questions about whether or not the book is appropriate, contact me - I'll be checking my email regularly throughout the summer. ***YOU MAY NOT SELECT A BOOK YOU'VE ALREADY READ.***

E (Entertainment)

Attend a play (Cascade, Convention Center, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, etc.)

Virtual Museums:

- Louvre
- Smithsonian Museum of Natural History
- Vatican Museums
- Auschwitz/Burkenau
- The British Museum
- The Virtual Museum of Iraq

*Or actually visit a real museum!

Podcasts/Other Options to Consider:

- Invisibilia
- Revisionist History
- The Hidden Brain
- Planet Money
- TED Radio Hour
- BBC Podcasts
- Code Switch
- This American Life (a personal favorite!)

Academy Award Winning Movie (any year, one you HAVEN'T seen)

TED Talks

Documentary Films (Academy Award winning is preferable, but not required; again, one you HAVEN'T seen)

H (History)

Engage in any of the following and reflect on its relevance/legacy in 2019:

- Documentary on a historical time, place, event, or person
- Movie based on historical events or people
- Book: historical fiction
- Book: nonfiction on a historical time, place, event, or person
- Article: about historical time, place, event, or person
- Article: of historical significance (written at that point in history)
- Speech: video or audio with historical significance
- Museum visit

U (Universal Truths)

Find and reflect on a universal truth: a truth that is logically valid and considered to transcend the physical state of the universe, existing beyond all times and places. The order of the physical universe is often derived from widely held universal truths. You can find them anywhere; try to avoid cliches.

Common subjects to consider:

Alienation	Ambition	Appearance vs. Reality	Art	Betrayal	Bureaucracy
“the system”	Chance/Fate/Luck	Childhood	Children	Courage/cowardice	
Cruelty/Violence	Custom/Tradition	Defeat/Failure		Despair/Discontent/Disillusionment	
Domination/Suppression	Dreams/Fantasies	Education/School	Escape	Exile	
Faith/Loss of Faith	Falsity/Pretense	Family/Parenthood	Free Will/Will Power	Friendship	
Games/Contest/Sports	Greed Guilt	Heaven/Paradise/Utopia	Hero/Heroism	Home	
Illusion/Innocence	Initiation/Maturation	Instinct/Heart vs. Reason	Journey/Psychological	Journey	
Law/Justice	Loneliness/Aloneness	Love Loyalty	Materialism	Memory/The Past	
Mob Mentality	Patriotism	Persistence/Perseverance	Poverty	Prejudice	Pride
Prophecy	Repentance	Resistance/Rebellion	Revenge/Retribution		
Ritual/Ceremony	Scapegoat/Victim	Search for Identity	Search for Truth	Social Status	
Time/Eternity	War	Women/Feminism/Gender Roles	Youth		

G (Government)

Current Events (Local, state, national, international)

- [AllSides](#) (website that provides all sides of an issue; good resource for understanding bias)

Read Opinion editorial (op-ed) articles on a contemporary issue

- New York Times
- Washington Post
- The Guardian
- The Hill
- Los Angeles Times
- The Atlantic
- The New Yorker

The following are the six functions of government as outlined in the Preamble:

- *Form a more perfect union...* (States working together)
- *Establish justice...* (Make and enforce laws)
- *Ensure domestic tranquility...* (Peace in our country)
- *Provide for the common defense...* (Keep country safe from an attack)
- *Promote the general welfare...* (Contribute and promote happiness)
- *Secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity...* (Make sure we stay free and keep our rights today)

Reflect on the extent to which these functions are addressed in today's society.

O (Observations)

Society and Cultural Trends: Look at "[10 Trends in Society and Culture](#)". Read and summarize the trend and then argue to what extent we see this trend in our own community (California, even Redding specifically). Find and cite evidence to support your argument from any local newspaper, Twitter feed, Facebook page, etc.

Visual Analysis: This category considers two options: classical art analysis and basic photograph analysis. If you want a challenge, try the former. A template for discussing a piece of classical art can be found [here](#). If you choose the latter, you can use the OPTIC method.

O: Overview (a summary of the piece in a few sentences)

P: List all the **parts** that seem important (color, figures, textures, groupings, shadings, patterns, numbers, repetitions, etc.) (EVIDENCE)

T: How does the **title** or **text** contribute to its overall meaning?

I: Explain the **interrelationships** in the image. Consider how the parts come together to create a mood or convey an idea or an argument.

C: Write a **conclusion** paragraph that interprets the meaning of the image as a whole. (CLAIM)