

AP Language and Composition  
MacArthur High School  
Summer Assignment  
June 2019

***The Smartest Kids in the World* by Amanda Ripley  
and *The Language of Composition, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition***

Dear AP Language Student,

Welcome! AP Language and Composition is a challenging course that will help you think about the way writers write. This course focuses primarily on non-fiction and the rhetorical strategies authors use to create their works and engage their readers.

In order to prepare for the year ahead, you will read and analyze *The Smartest Kids in the World*, and complete the assignments that follow. In addition, you will be responsible for activities in chapter 1 of our textbook, as well as familiarizing yourself with the glossary of terms from that chapter for an upcoming quiz.

**I. Assignments for *The Smartest Kids in the World* and *How They Got That Way*:**

1. *The Smartest Kids in the World* is divided into three parts; you will complete a double entry journal for each part. The journals should be handwritten, and are already labeled with the part of the text on top (pages 5, 6, and 7 in this packet). Each journal is worth 10 points. Additional written assignments during the first few weeks of school will also assess your comprehension of the work, so it is imperative that you read the entire book and take notes.
2. Complete a rhetorical précis for ONE student's experience (Kim, Tom, OR Eric) over the course of the book. The précis is worth 30 points toward your grade, and must be typed, double-spaced. Please refer to the précis template we have provided on page 2 and the list of rhetorically accurate verbs on pages 3 and 4.

**II. Assignments for *The Language of Composition, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition***

1. Read Chapter 1 of the textbook, and complete the SOAPS activity on the bottom of page 6. Due typed, double-spaced; worth 10 points.
2. Select one speech or visual text from any Internet source. Print your chosen text, and then type one paragraph that explores the SOAPSTONE; 20 points.
3. Complete the activity on the bottom of page 20. Choose ONE of the rhetorical situations and type your response; worth 10 points.

**This is an independent assignment; your work should be entirely your own. It is due on the first day of school in September. It will not be accepted after then.**

If a question should arise over the summer, you may email [cwellenreuther@levittownschools.com](mailto:cwellenreuther@levittownschools.com) or [mtonn@levittownschools.com](mailto:mtonn@levittownschools.com).

Have a great summer!

Mrs. Wellenreuther and Mrs. Tonn

# Four-Sentence Rhetorical Précis Frame

1. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, in his/her  
(author's credentials—optional) (author's first and last name)

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ ( \_\_\_\_\_ ), argues (or  
(genre) (title of text; date in parentheses)

some other appropriate verb) that \_\_\_\_\_  
(major assertion of author's text)

2. She/he supports her/his claim by first \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, then \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, then \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, and finally \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_'s purpose is to \_\_\_\_\_  
(author's last name) (purpose)

\_\_\_\_\_ in order to

(to accomplish what?)

4. She/he \_\_\_\_\_ a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ tone for  
(verb: adopts, establishes, creates, etc.) (tone)

(intended audience).

## RHETORICALLY ACCURATE VERBS

Rhetorically accurate verbs are action words.

- Examples:
1. Ayn Rand **championed** radical capitalism.
  2. Douglas Engelbart **invented** the computer mouse.
  3. Galileo **discovered** sunspots.
  4. Salk **cured** smallpox.
  5. Jimi Hendrix **redefined** the electric guitar.

*In AP Language, you will work from this list to describe what an author DOES.*

### RHETORICALLY ACCURATE VERBS

Accentuates	Calls	Declares	Elevates	Fantasizes	Intensifies
Accepts	Challenges	Deduces	Elicits	Focuses	Interprets
Achieves	Champions	Defends	Elucidates	Forces	Interrupts
Acknowledges	Changes	Defines	Embodies	Foreshadows	Introduces
Adds	Characterizes	Defies	Empathizes	Forewarns	Inundates
Adopts	Chooses	Deifies	Emphasizes	Fortifies	
Advocates	Chronicles	Delineates	Empowers	Fosters	Juxtaposes
Affects	Claims	Demonstrates	Encounters	Functions	Justifies
Affirms	Clarifies	Denigrates	Encourages		
Alleges	Comments	Denotes	Enhances	Heightens	Lampoons
Alleviates	Compares	Denounces	Enlightens	Highlights	Lists
Allows	Completes	Depicts	Enriches	Hints	
Alludes	Concerns	Describes	Enumerates	Holds	Maintains
Amplifies	Concludes	Details	Envisions	Honors	Magnifies
Analogizes	Condemns	Determines	Escalates	Hypothesizes	Manages
Analyzes	Condescends	Develops	Establishes		Manipulates
Approaches	Conducts	Deviates	Evokes	Generalizes	Masters
Argues	Conforms	Differentiates	Evaluates	Guides	Meanders
Arouses	Confronts	Differs	Excludes		Minimizes
Ascertain	Connotes	Directs	Excuses	Identifies	Moralizes
Asserts	Considers	Disappoints	Exemplifies	Illuminates	Motivates
Assesses	Constrains	Discerns	Exhibits	Illustrates	Muses
Assails	Constructs	Discovers	Exhorts	Imagines	
Assumes	Contends	Discusses	Expands	Impels	Notes
Attacks	Contests	Dispels	Experiences	Implements	
Attempts	Contradicts	Displays	Explains	Implies	Observes
Attests	Contrasts	Disputes	Explicates	Includes	Offers
Attributes	Contributes	Disrupts	Expounds	Indicates	Opines
Augments	Conveys	Dissuades	Exposes	Indicts	Opposes
Avoids	Convinces	Distinguishes	Expresses	Infers	Organizes
	Creates	Distorts	Exemplifies	Initiates	Outlines
Bases	Critiques	Downplays	Extends	Inspires	Overstates
Believes		Dramatizes	Extrapolates	Intends	
Belittles					
Bolsters					

Paints	Rationalizes	Submits	OTHERS:		
Patronizes	Reasons	Suggests			
Performs	Recalls	Summarizes			
Permeates	Recapitulates	Supplies			
Permits	Recites	Supports			
Personifies	Recollects	Suppresses			
Persuades	Records	Sustains			
Pervades	Recounts	Symbolizes			
Ponders	Reflects	Sympathizes			
Portrays	Refers				
Posits	Refutes	Theorizes			
Postulates	Regales	Traces			
Praises	Regards	Transcends			
Predicts	Regrets	Transforms			
Prepares	Relates				
Presents	Reinforces	Understands			
Presumes	Rejects	Understates			
Produces	Remarks	Unpacks			
Proffers	Reminds	Uses			
Projects	Represents				
Promotes	Repudiates	Vacillates			
Proposes	Reveals	Values			
Provides	Reverts	Venerates			
Provokes	Ridicules	Verifies			
Purports		Views			
	Satirizes	Vilifies			
Qualifies	Sees	Vindicates			
Questions	Selects				
	Serves	Wants			
	Solidifies	Wishes			
	Specifies				
	Speculates				
	States				
	Strengthens				
	Strives				

### KILLER WORDS

Words to AVOID in academic writing. This is a starter list. It will grow!

A lot	Interesting	Amazing
Very	Bad	Awesome
Many	Great	
Things	Definitely	
Lots	Extremely	
Stuff	Nice	
Ways	Wonderful	
Really	In today's society...	
Absolutely		

# The Smartest Kids in the World / Part I - Fall

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Summer Assignment- AP Lang

<b>Direct Quotation/Specific Detail from text</b>	<b>Your observation, comment or question</b>

The Smartest Kids in the World / Part II -- Winter

N

<b>Direct Quotation/Specific Detail from text</b>	<b>Your observation, comment or question</b>

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Summer Assignment- AP Lang