

May 16th, 2011

Dear New AP Student,

AP Language will enhance your understanding of the writer's purpose for any text; whether it's from a novel or an article. When you pick up one of the many intriguing books that Mrs. B will assign to you as a class, you'll analyze how the writer uses rhetorical strategies to construct their purpose. This is done through their word choice which was arranged in a way to form a "voice" that you'll hear within any page or text that will be assigned. Annotating everything that you read will enable you to see anything in a whole new perspective and once you learn how to utilize this essential technique, you'll improve your understanding for the author's purpose more clearly. You'll come across many Socratic Circles that'll give you a chance to open your mind to your peer's opinions and search your own so that you can share what you got out of the material. The debates that'll take place in the year will greatly prepare you for what's to come in Senior year and you'll learn how to maintain an argument professionally, and speak up for what you believe in affectively. Everything that you'll do this year will prepare you for college and even in life, so pay close attention.

For me, the first nine weeks opened my eyes to see the world in a whole new perspective. However, each student possessed their own perception of the world which makes up a bunch of worlds that we've all opened our eyes to. Each student had their own opinion about everything and I appreciated the amount of respect that we all had for each other's. It was nice to have the luxury of speaking my mind with be heard genuinely amongst my peers without being judged. At first, the amount of hard work was a shock but once I stayed balanced with my other classes and chores at home I could maintain a steady work flow, and so could you.

Everything that I've attained throughout my time in this class has taught me many valuable lessons. I learned about the effectiveness that each rhetorical strategy implies and the "syntax" which is the floor plan that every writer constructs in order to build up the audience's perception of his or her purpose. I learned how to explain my analysis of a text through affective writing. I learn how to speak my mind and persuade others to agree. For me, time management was a struggle at first due to the constant procrastination that you will inevitably face unfortunately, but I conquered that habit because I realized that time is of the essence.

In order to finish this endurance race, you must maintain an open mind. Treat everyone with the respect that you would like in return because it wouldn't be nice if spoke up for what you believed in only to be disrespected. Manage your time and try to balance your priorities, and sometime during the year, you *will* ask yourself, "Don't teachers realize that I have five other classes!?" Make sure you do your best in all that you do and turn everything in on time. Listen to everything that Mrs. B says because it's essential, plus she doesn't like to repeat herself. Above all else, take initiative and don't give up on anything.

Sincerely,

Angelique Irizarry