

May 6, 2011

Dear New AP Students,

Beware. You're entering a danger zone and you might not know what you're getting yourself into. AP Language is exactly what it sounds like. Advanced Placement. It is a class where you'll get angry at yourself, and the teacher, and you'll spend hours, even days, doing work that you thought wouldn't be half bad. You're going to spend a lot of your time annotating fourteen page letters and you'll read some books that you'll barely understand. Sometimes you'll get angry and want to give up, but you can't. You might not receive those straight A's that you're used to and you'll get frustrated and want to break down and cry. You can't. You can make it through and it'll make you stronger. You'll learn a lot about the necessary requirements that colleges expect and your writing will get better. You'll broaden your mind and you and your class will become one whole. AP Language is more than another class you're required to take; it's the class where you will find yourself

In the process of the first nine weeks, things might not seem that bad. At first, you might think I'm wrong. Just wait and you'll see. During the first quarter, I stayed up later than I have for any other class. I lost my confidence and I was scared of failing for the first time in my life. Fortunately, you're going to have a teacher who will help you through it all. She'll criticize you and she'll be harder on you than some of your past teachers may have been. In the scheme of things, it's all for the best. You'll make so many memories in this class and you may never be the person you were before you walked into her classroom.

You will learn a lot after spending a year in Mrs. Buchanans classroom. Even after a few weeks, you'll learn to make sure you don't forget to save your assignments to a couple different things. Computers crash and thumb drives get lost. You'll learn that procrastinating to read a twenty-one page short story the morning that it's due is probably not the best idea. Take everything you do seriously and never think you've got it in the bag. Always proofread and always double, or triple, check your work. Learn from your mistakes and play to your strengths. Learn these lessons early in the year and the rest will be a piece of cake.

Don't get over confident and don't think I'm kidding. Do your work and don't forget to study. Vocabulary won't go away. Always have a pen on you because you never know when you forgot about an in class essay. In the end, don't forget to have fun and don't forget to love who you are. But don't say I didn't warn you.

Sincerely,

Kaylee King