



English AP Seminar 2020-2021 Summer Assignments

Welcome Advanced Placement (AP) Seminar,

You have chosen to take **Advanced Placement Seminar** this upcoming year. The emphasis of the class will be for us to engage in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics by analyzing divergent perspectives. We will investigate a problem or issue, analyze arguments, compare different perspectives, synthesize information from multiple sources, and work alone and in a group to communicate the ideas we've discovered. To that end, you will be reading, writing, and analyzing several articles and/or resources over the summer in preparation for our first unit on social classes, poverty, and wealth.

Task 1: Enroll in our Summer Workshop Google Classroom. Links to all the articles and resources will be posted there. Class Code: **abho6cy**

Task 2: Read carefully and annotate **ALL** of the texts listed below. Please see **Google Classroom (GC)** for annotation criteria, list of argument terms to be used in annotations, and example.

Anxiety Alert:

Before you consider dropping this class— these articles are small, resulting in less than 100 pages total.

- From "Social Class and the Hidden Curriculum of Work" by John Anyon (*10 pages*)
- Excerpt from "On The Want Of Money" by William Hazlitt (*10 pages*)
- "Hidden Rules Among Classes" by Ruby Payne (*1 page chart*)
- "As Schools Tackle Poverty, Attendance Goes Up, but Academic Gains are Tepid" by Denisa R. Superville (*3 pages*)
- "Singer Solution to World Poverty" by Peter Singer (*5 pages*)
- "Lifeboat Ethics" The Case Against Helping the Poor" by Garrett Hardin (*8 pages*)
- From "The Gospel of Wealth" by Andrew Carnegie (1889) (*1 page*)
- Excerpts from *Hillbilly Elegy* by J.D. Vance (*23 pages*)
- "The official U.S. poverty rate is based on a hopelessly out-of-date metric" by Shawn Fremstad (*5 pages*)
- "Professional Middle-class Couple, 1927" by Adam Kirsch (*1 page poem and picture*)
- "Class Clowns" cartoon by Richard Dall (*1 page cartoon*)
- "Equality Isn't Cheap" by Max Foley-Keene (*3 pages*)
- "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas" by Ursula Le Guin (*4 pages*)
- *Woman Ironing* by Pablo Picasso (*1 page artwork*)

- “Forty-Millionaire Carnegie in his Great Double Role,” political cartoon
The Saturday Globe (1 page cartoon)
- Listen to a podcast relevant to this unit (you can pick one other than the link on GC)
(your choice - “x” minutes)
- NPR: Inside The Minds of the Mega-Rich produced by Gabrielle Healy; Text by Kathryn Fink. (46 minutes)
- TEDTalk: America’s Forgotten Working Class by J.D. Vance (14 minutes)

Task 3: Pick your favorite article and answer the following essential questions through a much closer reading of the text. In order to prepare for the paper and Socratic Seminar, you will need to gather significant quotations and passages from the readings. A chart can be located on google classroom to support/track your notes; however, complete the essential questions separately in more detailed notes.

Essential Questions to Guide Reading:

- What/Who is the biggest factor in social class?
- What are the various factors that shape one’s social class?
- What role should the government play in social class?
- How can bridging the global digital divide lead to a decrease in inequality across the world? How does your ready access (or lack of access) to a computer and the Internet impact your life chances/possibilities?
- How has the social class of your parents and your upbringing influenced your success in school and your professional aspirations?

Task 4: Complete a SOAPStone and a RAVEN worksheet analysis (on GC) for:

- “The official U.S. poverty rate...” by Shawn Fremstad”,
- “Lifeboat Ethics...” by Garrett Hardin (These are posted on Google Classroom), and the
- TEDTalk: America’s Forgotten Working Class by J.D. Vance

Task 5: For artwork and cartoons, complete the artwork/cartoon analysis sheet (on GC).

Task 6: In a one-two page paper, answer **ONE** of the following questions:

1. **Who or what is the most influential factor in determining social class? OR**
2. **What role should the government play in the development of social class?**

Use the summer readings as well as any others to argue your response. Paper should be typed, double-spaced and should use the proper **MLA format**; you should also have a Works Cited page. ***Please bring a hard copy to class the first day of school.***

Final Product and Deadline:

- ***Tasks 1-6 will be compiled in a portfolio folder; this anthology of your summer work will be completed and turned-in during the first week of school.***

Looking forward to a great year,
Mr. Bath