12 AP/IB English Language and Composition Summer Reading
North Central High School: Summer 2021

AP Language and Composition is a writing course with a focus on rhetorical analysis. Students will learn to write in three different modes while also reading many and varied nonfictional texts for which they are asked to identify authors' arguments, biases and the rhetorical strategies used to make their argument. Thus, the ability to read critically and to evaluate texts accurately is also a focus throughout the year.

Directions: COMPLETE ASSIGNMENTS A, B, and C and bring them on the first day of school.

Text: *Days of Destruction Days of Revolt* including introduction
Authors: Chris Hedges and Joe Sacco

- **Unless you desire, DO NOT read all of the last chapter of the book: "Days of Revolt." Read only pages 268-271: From "Goldman Sachs' commodities index..." to "...that the mighty can fall."**

As you read, do the following:

- Annotate. Highlighting alone is not annotation. Annotation includes marginal notes.
- Pay particular attention to passages that include similes, metaphors, repetition, allusions, cataloguing or interesting word choice.
- Consider how the graphic sections of the book inform the argument of the chapter.

Assignment A: (450-650 words = aproximately1.5 pages maximum)

FOLLOW THESE DIRECTIONS for assignment A.

- Select the chapter that you find most compelling/interesting.
- Identify **one** argument the Hedges make that is central to the chapter.
- Using **two** pieces of textual evidence to support your response, **analyze** how the language that Hedges employs advances the argument you have identified. Your analysis should focus on how the devices you have marked create meaning.
- Do not simply list devices; you must analyze them to indicate how they further the argument you identify. (I.D. device. Analyze device. Make an argument based on your analysis and the meaning of the sentence as a whole= much like11AP literary analysis!).
- Do not summarize.
- Your response should be **ONE typed paragraph.** At the top of the paper, identify the authors' argument. Example: In "Insert Name of Chapter," Hedges argues ... Skip a few lines and begin your paragraph.
- **Responses must be:**
  -double-spaced
  -use size 12-point, standard font.
  -Include: your name, the date and the word count.

NOTE: Teachers will not read beyond maximum word count indicated above

Assignment B:

- Choose either a frame from one of the graphic sections **or** an illustration from the book. (The illustrations are Sacco's contributions to the text).
- Bullet your observations.
- Based on your observations, indicate what the image argues.

Assignment C:
Over the course of the first semester, AP students will complete a 2,000-2,500-word essay. IB students will complete a 3,500-4,000-word essay. In order to choose a topic for the essay, we ask that you do what is indicated below.

AP STUDENTS ONLY:
Consider what topics are of interest to you. Search on Amazon, in bookstores, in the library etc. and identify two nonfiction, non-memoir books that address the topic(s) in which you are interested. Make sure that the books have endnotes or footnotes that corroborate the author's claims. On the first day of school, bring an index card with the titles of TWO nonfiction books you have identified. YOU DO NOT NEED TO BUY THE BOOKS OR BEGIN READING; SIMPLY BRING IN THE TITLES. Over the years, the following have been topics: climate change, treatment of female prisoners, prison reform, race relations, education, musical compositions, effects of poverty

IB STUDENTS ONLY:
You will need to choose a subject area in which to complete your essay. You will also need to choose a specific topic within this subject area and a mentor (a teacher in the building who teaches your chosen subject area,). If you choose to complete a literature extended essay, your English teacher will be your mentor. On the first day of school, please bring an index card with the following information: subject area for your extended essay, possible topic(s), possible mentor. Also, print, read and annotate the subject guide for the subject area you have chosen. Subject guides can be found here: http://www.nchs.cc/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/ibextendedessayguide2018.pdf

Subject Areas:
Studies in Language and Literature (literature essay)
Language Acquisition (foreign language)
Economics
Geography
Global Politics
History
Psychology
Social and Cultural Anthropology
World Religions
Biology
Chemistry
Physics
Mathematics
Film
Visual Arts