

**AP English Language and Composition
Summer Preparation 2009**

Assignment #1: Due sometime this summer, worth 20 points

Compose an email introduction to me that highlights who you are—your interests, talents, hobbies, favorite subjects, etc. and why. I will confirm that I have received your email. If you don't get a response, you should follow up with me to find an alternate method of delivery.

Assignment #2: Due the first day of class, worth 100 points

In as much detail as possible, describe yourself as both a reader and a writer. What things have you been very good at over the years and what things do you most need to improve upon? Who has helped contribute to these literary goals—a parent, a teacher, a journal, a friend? Try thinking outside the box—get creative! Try including favorite books, favorite (or least favorite) teachers, explain about the time your mom put you're A+ paper on the fridge, or tell about the moment when you received your first failing grade in English. This assignment can take on any form: a letter to an English teacher, a diary entry, a formal essay, etc. The main goal of the paper is to be as reflective as possible—who are you as a literate individual? Think and think hard! --Must be at least 1.5 pages double spaced and typed.

Grading Criteria:

- Clearly addresses expectations
- Organized and neat
- Grammatically correct

Assignment #3: Due the first day of class, worth 50 points

Read the book *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* (chapters 1-26, you may omit chapter 4). Design a graphic organizer that lists any of the archetypal patterns described in the chapters. In the first column, clearly identify the archetype and its possible meaning.

Assignment #4: Due the first day of class, combined with Assignment #3

Read the novel *The Color Purple*, by Alice Walker. Use the same graphic organizer from assignment #3 (or you may use the one attached to this paper) to provide an example that illustrates the archetypal pattern you listed from *How To Read Literature*.

Assignment #5: Due the first day of class, worth 50 points

Write a theme analysis of *The Color Purple*. In (at least) a 5 paragraph essay, explain the theme of the novel using specific events directly from it that support your theme.

Assignment #6: Due the first day of class, worth 50 points

Do some research on Puritan New England. What were some of the beliefs of these Puritans? What role did the Calvinists (followers of John Calvin) play in their thinking? Take some notes showing how the beliefs of the Puritans affected literature. Your notes should answer the above questions.

AP Language is a college class and the readings may contain mature themes. It is your responsibility to handle these themes with discretion and maturity.

