

Español Português Krevõl avisven

# **Essential Questions:**

- What is the purpose of the AP Language and Composition course and how can we process our work through a social justice lens?
- How and why do writers use language to persuade and how can language challenge existing power structures?

# **Big Ideas:**

Using short, non-fiction texts to introduce the overall concept of rhetoric, students will identify, discuss, and analyze topics of patriotism, hope, control, and the manner in which the environment impacts human behavior.

#### What will I learn?

- **Critical Literacy:** The impact of multiculturalism, racism, classism, intersectionality, marginalization and sexism on an individual's understanding of self.
- **Speaking:** How to participate effectively in collaborative discussions on texts and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing my own ideas.
- **Reading:** How authors utilize rhetorical techniques such as ethos, pathos, logos, and rhetorical modes (description, definition, narration, cause/effect, classification/division) to develop messages and arguments.
- **Writing:** How to analyze writers' choices in non-fiction texts by identifying their strategies in connecting their audience to their message/argument.

#### What will I read?

Gehrig Retirement Speech (first reading to intro material)

Bush 9/11 Speech (do on 9/11)

Obama 9/11 Remembrance Speech (do on 9/11)

reading focused on thinking:

- "Is Google Making Us Stupid?"
- "The Education of Women"
- "The Allegory of the Cave"
- "Civil Disobedience"

Santa Ana Winds (practice for in-class essay)

Chavez Excerpt Q2

### How will I show what I've learned?

Practice	Assessment
Thesis statement breakdowns Thesis statement writing Prompt breakdowns Group and class excerpt annotations Multiple Choice practice Blogs	Obama Speech Rhetorical Analysis Chart Articles of the Week Analysis Santa Ana Winds Modified Essay Q2 Rhetorical Analysis On-Demand Essay

# Tips for families

- **Reading:** Students should anticipate nightly reading. Check in with your child regularly to see how the reading is going. Ask questions about the characters, events, and themes we're discussing. Encourage your student to create a schedule for when they can complete their reading.
- **Monitoring Classroom and Aspen:** Google Classroom will be updated daily with assignments, and as those assignments are graded they will appear in Aspen. Check in on students' progress by discussing the assignments with them and email if you have any questions or concerns about missing work.
- Discussing important topics: Over the course of the year we'll discuss complex, occasionally difficult
  topics around race, nationality, and sexuality. Oftentimes this leads to fruitful discussion and thinking
  in class. Other times, students may leave with more questions than answers. Continue these
  conversations at home to help your student work through their feelings and thoughts.