

## Guidelines for AP Language and Composition Summer Assignments:

### Assignment 1:

- Read “How to Mark a Book” by Mortimer J. Alder, Ph.D  
<http://www.tnellen.com/cybereng/adler.html>
- Attempt to annotate the selection according to the instructions presented in the text. You will be expected to know and to be well-practiced at using the reading techniques described in Mortimer’s essay.

### Assignment 2:

- Read and annotate *The Elements of Style*. In this short book, authors offer a series of brief rules for writing clear and concise nonfiction prose. **Read this book first**; you will use information from this book to analyze your nonfiction selection.
- Create a two-column by twenty-three row chart using MS Word or Google Docs. Label the left-hand column –Rules and Principles of Composition – label the right-hand column – Examples from the Text. In the first column, type each rule in its own row (there will be twenty-two rules that appear in chapters “Elementary Rules of Usage” and “Elementary Principles of Composition”) and include the page number with the rule. (***This will count as your annotation for this selection.***)
- Save this chart for later use; you will be looking for examples for each rule as you read your nonfiction selection.

### Assignment 3:

- Read and annotate your nonfiction selection (refer to the cover letter for selections). You will want to include in your annotations examples of Strunk and White’s rules 1-22. It will make it easier to organize your final chart.
- **Bring your annotated nonfiction selection to the first class. This is your first grade in the course.**
- Refer to your Rules and Principles of Composition Chart. Type your examples for each rule into the second column (cite page number in parentheses). Include examples from throughout the book. If your author breaks a rule, please make a note of that.
- **Submit your Rules and Principles of Composition Chart on the second day of class.**

### Assignment 4:

- Draft a two-page essay (typed, Times New Roman, double-spaced) in which you analyze the style of your selected book by using Strunk and White’s rules from the chapter entitled “An Approach to Style.” In your analysis, do not try to include all twenty-one rules; instead, select three to six rules that seem particularly suited to your author’s style of writing. Include supporting details from throughout your book, and cite each example with the page number in parentheses.
- Document your primary source using MLA format. Your MLA citation for your selection will appear at the end of your essay.
- **Submit your final draft on the second day of class.**