

## AP English 3 Language & Composition Summer Reading Assignment

AP Language and Composition focuses on the use of rhetoric to construct a written argument. This summer you will read *The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference* by Malcolm Gladwell, which is available at any library or bookstore. The book argues that seemingly insignificant trends can have a much larger affect on the greater culture. Gladwell supports his main argument by using examples from today's culture. As you read, keep in mind how each example supports Gladwell's overall argument.

### **The following is due on the first day of class:**

Keep a reading log (quotes & notes) where you copy significant passages (significant to you of course) from the book on the left side of the log and comment on the passages on the right. You will comment on 20 passages. This is typed and due on the first day of the class.

### **Use the following questions to help you select and comment on the passages:**

- What is the reason for the author making the particular argument?
- Who is the author's audience?
- What rhetorical appeals is the author using? Does the author use mostly appeals to logos, ethos, or pathos (logic & facts, credibility, or emotion) to prove his point to his audience?
- Look for patterns of repetition, contrast, and anomalies (things that do not seem to fit). What is the affect of these devices?
- Suspend your own judgment; I am not asking you to agree or disagree with the author. I want only an analysis of the points the author is trying to make and how they are constructed. It is important that you do not write that you agree or disagree with the argument. You must focus on an analysis of the structure of the argument.

I suggest that you read the novel at the beginning of the summer. This will allow you to reflect on its significance and perhaps you will notice other elements you could add to your analysis.

You may try to contact me at [mr.warren@comcast.net](mailto:mr.warren@comcast.net) over the summer if you need help, and I will try get back to you as soon as I can. I will be away for most of the summer; please do not expect an immediate response.

This is an AP class and a certain level of responsibility and behavior is required. The course will be demanding as we will cover the English 3 Honors coursework in addition to the AP preparation. Late work is not accepted. Technology problems are not valid excuses.

Enjoy,

Mr. Warren