

AP Seminar Summer Assignment

Hello! This packet is a small part in me assessing you on your ability to write and glean information from a text. The largest portion of AP Seminar is you being able to express your ideas and thoughts through writing, projects, and presentations. For the summer, we will focus on your writing.

The AP Seminar course is founded on the concept QUEST.

Question and explore

Understand and analyze arguments

Evaluate multiple perspectives

Synthesize ideas

Team, transform, and transmit

Through this concept, you will break down topics and issues by viewing them through specific lenses. You will use these lenses to analyze several different articles for this assignment, as well as throughout the year. Therefore, you must familiarize yourself with these terms.

Lenses:

Environmental Scientific

Economic

Political and Historical

Artistic and Philosophical

Cultural and Social

You will use these lenses to complete the assignments below.

Assignment

1. Go to the NEWSELA website through your Launchpad.
2. You will need to scroll down to see the different topics.
3. Click on a topic title you are interested in. You **MUST** choose 5 **DIFFERENT** topics.
4. Read the article on the MAX grade level.

If you want to pull articles from websites other than NEWSELA, you can! Go for it! I will list some HIGHLY reputable sites below.

Read and annotate the five articles and complete the journal assignment outlined below. The journal entry should be typed and double spaced.

5. Create an MLA works cited entry for each article (see the Purdue OWL for tips) or go to <http://www.easybib.com/style>.
6. In **NO MORE THAN** one page under the citation, provide the following:

- a. Identify the different issues presented regarding the topic and how it connects to one of the lenses.
- b. Identify the author's main idea, argument, or thesis.
- c. How does the author create his/her argument? What are the lines of reasoning?
- d. Do you believe the author and the evidence are credible and reliable? Why or why not?
- e. Evaluate the article's effectiveness. Is it convincing? Why or why not?

Utilize at least 2 quotes from the articles for support.

Please use paragraph form. You should have 5 paragraphs, one for each letter.

Due Date: You will have 5 article summaries to complete. It would be wise to complete one a week so that you can have them all finished in time. The 5 articles are due on 8/2, and they will count as a complete TEST grade.

Do not wait until the last minute to complete this assignment. Do not ask your teacher to print the articles or your responses. Complete ORIGINAL work. Be intellectually curious.

AP Seminar Glossary
(Get familiar with these words!)

Alignment- cohesion between the focus of inquiry, the method of collecting information, the process of analysis of information, and the conclusions made to increase understanding of that focus

Argument-a claim or thesis that conveys a perspective developed through line of reasoning and supported by evidence

Assumption- a belief regarded as true and often unstated

Author- the one who creates a work (e.g. article; research; study; foundational, literary, or philosophical text; speech; broadcast, or personal account; artistic work or performance) that conveys a perspective and can be examined

Bias- a personal opinion, belief or value that may influence one's judgment, perspective, or claim

Claim- a statement made about an issue that asserts a perspective

Commentary- discussion and analysis of evidence in relation to the claim which may identify patterns, describe trends, and/or explain relationships

Complex issue- issue involving many facets or perspectives that must be understood in order to address it

Concession- acknowledgment and acceptance of an opposing or different view

Conclusion- understanding the resulting from the analysis of evidence

Context-the intent, audience, purpose, bias, situatedness, and/or background (larger environment) of a source or reference

Conventions- the stylistic features of writing (e.g. grammar, usage, mechanics)

Counterargument- an opposing perspective, idea, or theory supported by evidence

Credibility- the degree to which a source is believable and trustworthy

Cross-curricular- goes beyond the traditional boundary of a single content area or discipline

Deductive- a type of reasoning that constructs general propositions that are supported with evidence

Evidence- information (e.g. data, quotations, excerpts from text) used as proof to support a claim or thesis

Fallacy- evidence or reasoning that is false or in error

Implication- a possible future effect or result

Inductive- a type of reasoning that presents cases or evidence that lead to a logical conclusion

Inquiry- a process for seeking truth, information, or knowledge through a study, research investigation, or artistic endeavor/work

Interdisciplinary- involving two or more areas of knowledge

Issue- important problem for debate or discussion

Lens- a filter through which an issue or topic is considered or examined

Limitation- a boundary or point at which an argument or generalization is no longer valid

Line of reasoning- arrangement of claims and evidence that lead to a conclusion

Literature- the foundational and current texts of a field or discipline of study

Perspective- a point of view conveyed through an argument

Plagiarism- failure to acknowledge, attribute, and/or cite any ideas or evidence taken from another source

Point of view- a position or standpoint on a topic or issue

Primary source- an original source of information about a topic (e.g. study, artifact, data set, interview, article)

Qualification- a condition or exception

Qualitative- having to do with text, narrative, or descriptions

Rebuttal- contradicting an opposing perspective by providing alternate, more convincing evidence

Refutation- disproving an opposing perspective by providing counterclaims and counterevidence

Reliability- the extent to which something can be trusted to be accurate

Resolution- the act of solving a problem or dispute

Scaffolding- the provision of temporary structured support for students to aid skill development

Secondary source- a commentary about one or more primary sources that provides additional insight, opinions, and/or interpretation about the primary source, data, study, or artifacts

Sequencing- the organization of curriculum content into an order which progresses from simple to more complex

Solution- a means of answering a question or addressing a problem or issue

Text- something composed (e.g. articles; research studies; foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; speeches; broadcasts, and personal accounts; artistic

works and performances) that conveys a perspective and can be examined

Thesis- a claim or position on an issue put forward and supported by evidence

Tone- the way in which an author expresses an attitude about his or her topic or subject through rhetorical choices

Validity- the extent to which an argument or claim is logical

Vocal variety- changing vocal characteristics (e.g. pitch, volume, speed) in order to emphasize ideas, convey emotion or opinion, or achieve other specific purposes