

Harrison High School: AP Language with American Literature

Pre-Course Assignment



You are required to obtain **hard copies** (not digital downloads, e-readers, or audiobooks) of these **two** texts by the **FIRST** day of the semester.

- ★ [*Thank You for Arguing*](#) (4th Edition) by Jay Heinrichs
- ★ [*Princeton Review AP English LANGUAGE and Composition Premium Prep*](#) (20th or 21st edition)

NOTE: AP English Literature is NOT the same course.
You **MUST** use the **Premium Prep Edition**. The regular edition does not include the materials you need to complete this assignment or others throughout the semester.

This assignment is due on the tenth day of the semester. Be aware that you will have other assignments to complete in the class, so getting a head start will help you stay on track.

We will use both *Thank You For Arguing* and *Princeton Review Prep* daily within the first weeks of school. It is imperative that you **bring both of these texts on the first day of school**. We will use these resources to evolve our essay analysis throughout the semester.

We strongly encourage you to register for the additional free content offered at [PrincetonReview.com/prep](https://www.PrincetonReview.com/prep) by using the code provided on the first pages of your Princeton Review Premium Prep book. You will have access to more practice tests for AP Language as well as SAT and ACT practice.

Carefully follow the instructions below. Failure to follow any set of these directions will result in a lower score.

TAKE A PRE-TEST FIRST

Complete the multiple choice section of the first practice exam in your *Princeton Review AP English Language Premium Prep* book. Check your answers at the end of the practice exam section. Record your score and reflection in the *TYFA* study guide linked below.

READ THANK YOU FOR ARGUING

1. As you read *Thank You for Arguing*, complete the [**study guide**](#) which is due to [Turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com) before class on the tenth day of school.
2. You will take a **comprehensive test** over the book *Thank You for Arguing* on the tenth day of school.

Please continue reading for an extension opportunity for motivated students.

Harrison High School: AP Language with American Literature
Pre-Course Extension Opportunity



This extra credit opportunity is DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Students who complete **all four** journal entries on time with evident attention to detail and an apparent, genuine desire to change or grow their mindset will receive **10 extra credit points** on the pre-course test. When deciding whether or not to complete this extension task, please remember the power of a first impression, especially one that shows initiative and work ethic.

The challenge that is AP Language with American Literature at Harrison High School cannot be overstated. If you would like to improve both your grade in AP Lang and your potential for success in all academic endeavors, consider completing the following activity:

1. Read Dr. Carol S. Dweck's article "[Even Geniuses Work Hard.](#)"
2. View the TedTalk "[The Power of Belief--Mindset and Success.](#)"
3. Complete the following journal entries, typed in [MLA format](#), and uploaded to www.turnitin.com by 11:59 pm of the **first day of class**. **Please note:** AI detection and/or plagiarism issues will preclude your award of extra credit points.
 - a. Summarize the fundamental differences between a fixed and a growth mindset as described by Dweck. Incorporate at least five quotes from Dweck's article to support your claims. Cite each quotation properly using MLA-formatted in-text citations. You should number the paragraphs as you annotate, so while page numbers are required in parenthetical citations, you should also cite the paragraphs. Here's an example: (Dweck 2; par. 8). Write at least 500 words to complete this journal entry. Include a word count (for this entry ONLY) in parentheses at the end of this entry.
 - b. Discuss Josh's story and his quote, "The moment we believe that success is determined by an ingrained level of ability, we will be brittle in the face of adversity." Write at least 250 words. When referencing the video, be sure to cite using the range of minutes and seconds, like so: (00:02:15-00:02:35). Include a word count (for this entry ONLY) in parentheses at the end of this entry.
 - c. Determine which author most successfully develops the claim that students can benefit from developing a growth mindset. You should specifically discuss how each author develops his/her claim (rhetorical analysis). Use evidence from both sources, the article and the video, to support your conclusion. Write at least 250 words. Include a word count (for this entry ONLY) in parentheses at the end of this entry.
 - d. Determine how you can change your mindset (if you find you have a fixed mindset) or further develop your mindset (if you find you have a growth mindset). Explain how a growth mindset will positively affect your life and improve your chances of success academically, emotionally, and socially, and in any other relevant aspect of your life. Write at least 200 words. Include a word count (for this entry ONLY) in parentheses at the end of this entry.