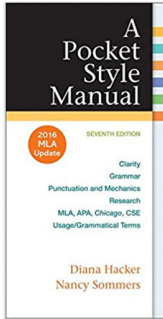


# AP Language and Composition Summer Reading Assignment 2020-2021

## #1: STYLE GUIDE

*A Pocket Style Manual, Seventh Edition*

by Diana Hacker and Nancy Sommers (spiral bound)  
(ISBN-13: 978-1319083526; ISBN-10: 1319083528)



This guide will serve as a valuable resource for this year and through college for information about writing style, grammar, mechanics, MLA and other popular styles of formatting and source documentation, and usage rules.

Use this guide to prepare your summer reading assignment in MLA format. Use it to check your grammar and usage as well. You will use this guide actively in class throughout the next two years of AP English.

You may also refer to the following website for extensive help and guides for MLA formatting:

[https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/mla\\_style/mla\\_style\\_introduction.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_style_introduction.html)

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## #2: CHOOSE ONE BOOK, TAKE NOTES, AND PREPARE ANSWERS IN A TYPED DOCUMENT

Take notes over the various sections of the BOOK OF YOUR CHOICE from the BOOK LIST below as you read so that you can answer the following questions. You may use the **Libby app** to try and locate the e-text version. Begin early, sometimes there is a waiting list to check them out online.

1. What is the RHETORICAL CONTEXT for your chosen book? In other words, what social, cultural, political, or other circumstances motivated the author to write the book? What was going on in the world at the time the book was written and published to prompt its creation?
2. What is the author's THESIS? Identify his argumentative POSITION.
3. What is the author's PURPOSE? What does he hope to ACHIEVE? **How do you know?** Include text evidence to support your answer.
4. Describe the author's SPECIFIC intended audience. Thoroughly EXPLAIN WHY this work would appeal to the particular audience you identify.
5. What were the THREE most CONVINCING passages of the book? Quote specific passages, include chapter titles, page references, and explain WHY

these were so convincing. Each passage should be drawn from a DIFFERENT chapter.

### **BOOK LIST**

1. *Alone Together: Why We Expect More from Technology and Less from Each Other* by Sherry Turkle (technology, social media, sociology)
2. *Assassination Vacation* by Sarah Vowell (memoir, American history)
3. *Born to Run* by Christopher McDougall (endurance sports, anthropology)
4. *Desert Solitaire* by Edward Abbey (environmentalism, wilderness, philosophy)
5. *Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson (true crime, American history)
6. *Don't Let's Go to the Dogs Tonight* by Alexandra Fuller (memoir, Africa)
7. *Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything* by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner (economics, sociology)
8. *Friday Night Lights* by H.G. Bissinger (football, sociology, American culture)
9. *In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote (true crime)
10. *Into Thin Air* by John Krakauer (mountain climbing, history, tragedy, social commentary)
11. *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell (sociology)
12. *Savage Inequalities* by Jonathon Kozol (education, sociology, class systems)
13. *Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson (environmental activism, science)
14. *The Beauty Myth* by Naomi Wolf (sociology, feminism)
15. *The Botany of Desire* by Michael Pollan (environmental science and human culture)
16. *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat* by Oliver Sacks (medicine)
17. *The Omnivore's Dilemma* by Michael Pollan (nutrition science and human culture)
18. *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* by Anne Fadiman (medicine, ethics, race, culture)
19. *This Boy's Life* by Tobias Wolffe (memoir, family, abuse)
20. *Where Men Win in Glory* by John Krakauer (sports, war, American history)

### **CAREFULLY PROOFREAD YOUR WORK**

If you have any questions over the summer, please contact Ms. Erin White at the following email:  
[erinwhite@npusc.k12.in.us](mailto:erinwhite@npusc.k12.in.us)

**\*\*\*DO NOT wait until the last minute\*\*\*  
Rushing is a GUARANTEE  
that you will not do your best work.**