

AP English Language & Composition Summer Enrichment

Summer 2024

I have provided the following terms for optional enrichment this summer. I highly recommend students familiarize themselves with these terms ahead of our work in the fall; however, it is not required. Email Ms. Cymerman at ecymerman@fcps.edu with any questions.

Writing & Grammar:

1. Adjective: A word that describes a noun or pronoun
2. Adverb: A word that describes a verb (usually ending in -ly)
3. Antecedent: The word, phrase, or clause to which a pronoun refers
4. Closed thesis: A statement of the main idea of the argument that also previews the major points the writer intends to make
5. Complex sentence: A sentence with one independent clause and at least one dependent clause
6. Compound sentence: A sentence with two or more coordinate independent clauses, often joined by one or more conjunctions
7. Compound-complex sentence: A sentence with two or more principal clauses and one or more subordinate clauses
8. Dependent clause: A clause that does not make sense when it stands alone
9. Noun: A word that names a person, place, thing, or idea
10. Open thesis: A thesis that does not list all the points the writer intends to cover in the essay
11. Parenthetical: A comment that interrupts the immediate subject, often to qualify or explain
12. Pronoun: A word that takes the place of a noun
13. Simple sentence: A sentence consisting of one independent clause and no dependent clause
14. Verb: An action, state, occurrence

Rhetorical Analysis:

15. Allusion: A reference to something literary, mythological, or historical that the author assumes the reader will recognize
16. Analogy: A comparison of two different things that are similar in some way
17. Anecdote: A brief narrative that focuses on a particular incident or event
18. Antithesis: A statement in which two opposing ideas are balanced
19. Colloquialism: Informal words or expressions not usually acceptable in formal writing
20. Concrete details: Details that relate to or describe actual, specific things or events
21. Connotation: The implied or associative meaning of a word
22. Deductive reasoning: Reasoning in which a conclusion is reached by stating a general principle and then applying that principle to a specific case
23. Denotation: The literal meaning of a word
24. Diction: The word choices made by a writer (diction can be described as formal, semi-formal, ornate, informal, technical, etc.)
25. Ethos: The persuasive appeal of one's character, or credibility
26. Euphemism: An indirect, less offensive way of saying something that is considered unpleasant
27. Figurative language: language employing one or more figures of speech (simile, metaphor, imagery, etc.)

28. Hyperbole: Intentional exaggeration to create an effect
29. Idiom: An expression in a given language that cannot be understood from the literal meaning of the words in the expression; or, a regional speech or dialect
30. Imagery: The use of figures of speech to create vivid images that appeal to one of the senses
31. Implication: A suggestion an author or speaker makes (implies) without stating it directly.
NOTE: The author/speaker implies; the reader/audience infers
32. Inductive reasoning: Deriving general principles from particular facts or instances
33. Inference: A conclusion based on premises or evidence
34. Irony: The use of words to convey the opposite of their literal meaning; or, incongruity between what is expected and what actually occurs (situational, verbal, dramatic)
35. Jargon: The specialized language or vocabulary of a particular group or profession
36. Juxtaposition: Placing two elements side by side to present a comparison or contrast
37. Logos: Appeal to reason or logic
38. Metaphor: A direct comparison of two different things
39. Mood: The emotional atmosphere of a work
40. Paradox: An apparently contradictory statement that actually contains some truth
41. Parallelism: The use of corresponding grammatical or syntactical forms
42. Pathos: The quality in a work that prompts the reader to feel pity
43. Personification: Endowing non-human objects or creatures with human qualities or characteristics
44. Rhetoric: The art of presenting ideas in a clear, effective, and persuasive manner
45. Rhetorical question: A question asked merely for rhetorical effect and not requiring an answer
46. Rhetorical devices: Literary techniques used to heighten the effectiveness of expression
47. Satire: The use of humor to emphasize human weaknesses or imperfections in social institutions
48. Simile: A comparison of two things using “like,” “as,” or other specifically comparative words
49. Structure: The arrangement or framework of a sentence, paragraph, or entire work
50. Style: The choices a writer makes; the combination of distinctive features of a literary work
51. Syllogism: A three-part deductive argument in which a conclusion is based on a major premise and a minor premise
52. Syntax: The manner in which words are arranged into sentences
53. Theme: A central idea of a work
54. Thesis: The primary position taken by a writer or speaker
55. Tone: The attitude of a writer, usually implied, toward the subject or audience
56. Understatement: The deliberate representation of something as lesser in magnitude than it
57. Vernacular: The everyday speech of a particular country or region, often involving nonstandard usage

Rhetorical Situation:

1. Speaker: The person or group who creates a text. This might be a politician who delivers a speech, a commentator who writes an article, an artist who draws a political cartoon, or even a company that commissions an advertisement
2. Purpose: The goal the writer or speaker of a text wants to achieve

3. Audience: The listener, viewer, or reader of a text. It has both shared and individual beliefs, values, needs, and backgrounds. Most texts are likely to have multiple audiences
4. Context: The circumstances, atmosphere, attitudes, and events surrounding a text
5. Exigence: The aspects of the rhetorical situation that prompted the writer or speaker to create the text, including its occasion