

## AP English Language Summer Assignment 2017

See Page Two of these directions for changes to the annotations part of the summer reading assignment. All changes from the printed directions are highlighted in yellow. Sorry for the inconvenience.

For your summer assignment, you will read and annotate (or perhaps keep a “toolbox” of the tricks/devices the book offers) *Thank You for Arguing* by Jay Heinrichs.

*TYFA* provides you with a variety of argumentative “tools” so that you can make the best rhetorical choices when you write (and recognize these choices when you read/hear others’ works).

“Rhetorical choices” include:

- A. **Strategies** a writer can use. Strategies are the approaches a writer can take in order to move his/her audience in the direction he/she wants. The chapters of *TYFA* tend to be broken up by strategy; for example, “soften them up” is a strategy/approach a writer can take if facing a skeptical or hostile audience.
- B. **Devices** a writer can employ. These are your literary/rhetorical devices - the way a writer can manipulate language through word choice, organization, etc. Irony, parallelism, repetition, figurative language - and more - are devices a talented writer can use to his/her advantage.

After reading the book, you should have quite a few argumentative “tools” that we know you’ll be dying to try out. The next step is to choose some of these tools and put them to use in an argumentative (persuasive) essay.

You’ll be writing a “Fool on the Hill” argument (see page 334-335 in *TYFA*) over the topic of your choice, and then creating a YouTube video in which you turn your essay into a speech.

Your **essay/speech** will need to do the following:

- ❖ Make an eloquent case for a seemingly crazy position (this can not just be a position that you find ridiculous, but others find reasonable - please avoid politics) - for example “Water in municipal pipes entering homes should be replaced with milk shakes.” or “All raisins should be banned from the planet.” (see more examples on page 334-335)
- ❖ Use at least 5 rhetorical **strategies** (other than concession and refutation) and 7 rhetorical **devices** from *TYFA*.
- ❖ Include concession and refutation of at least one counter-argument.
- ❖ Include two different logical fallacies (yes, usually you try to avoid these, but then again, you don’t usually argue a ridiculous position, either). Here is a great resource: <https://yourlogicalfallacyis.com/>
- ❖ Maintain an appropriate tone; despite the silliness of your position, you’re writing as though you’re in earnest.
- ❖ End on a strong note - perhaps a call to action, if appropriate.
- ❖ Your essay should be 2-4 pages, typed, double-spaced, and following the appropriate guidelines: **Note: AP Language students will follow all MLA guidelines for font, size, margins, etc. Found here: [https://owl.english.purdue.edu/media/pdf/20090701095636\\_747.pdf](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/media/pdf/20090701095636_747.pdf) but STEM AP Language students must follow APA guidelines for font, size, margins, etc. Found here: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>**

(Works Cited/Bibliography not necessary this time due to only one source, so please place full citation for *TYFA* at the end of your essay/speech and at the end of your transcript in the description box of your YouTube video).

Your **video** will need to do the following:

- ❖ Have the full audio of your speech with appropriate visuals (the easiest thing to do here would be to record yourself giving the speech, but if you prefer not to appear on camera, you may use stock video, copyright free images in a slide show, self produced imagery, or animation of your choice) along with video uploaded onto YouTube (you may use your school or personal Google account). - Please do not violate copyright law and use images, music, or video that is not copyright free or personally produced. Here is a tutorial on how to find copyright free images, video, and music: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P4SgVJRRMHc>
- ❖ You must include a full transcript (the essay/speech, in other words) in the description box and inserted as your self made subtitles/captions. Directions on how to include self made subtitles/captions can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LCZ-cxfzvk> or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qYci85tBje4> or a hundred other places (just Google it).

**ATTENTION! ASSIGNMENT CHANGE\_DATED 06/19/17**

**NOTE: This is a substitute task due to Youtube's discontinuation of their annotations feature as of last month. These directions should supercede any previous printed directions and should only take a few minutes to complete if all other parts of the assignment have already been completed according to directions (this is even easier than the original task).**

- ❖ Above the full transcript of your speech in the description box, you must also include an identification of each strategy/device/fallacy/refutation used in your speech and brief reasoning/rationale for use and their intended effect. These can be in paragraphs or listed/bulleted, but each identified moment from the speech should be linked via clearly marked timestamps as well. There should be a total of 16 identification/reasoning/rationale with linked timestamps in your description box. We should be able to click the timestamps and go to the exact moment in your speech that you are explaining. Here is an example of what that might look like in your description box:

[0:21](#) - I use the strawman fallacy when I said anyone who doesn't believe in unicorns must also not believe in magic and therefore not in love at all. [0:31](#) - I use hyperbole to exaggerate the effect of my logical fallacy by also saying that those persons whom do not believe in unicorns are prime candidates for free mental health resources. This shows the audience the benefits of my plan are for everyone! **Here are directions on how to add linked timestamps in your description:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tBiPumGnVT4>

- ❖ The entire video must be no longer than 5 minutes in length.
- ❖ A full MLA citation in your description box and a link to the author's book on Amazon or other place it can be purchased.
- ❖ Of a high enough quality to be viewed by your teachers and peers, and the internet at large (although you WILL be able to keep your video set to private and only share the link with your classmates and teacher). Please be advised that your classmates WILL be watching (and evaluating) these videos.

We, your teachers, highly advise you begin reading and working on this project early. It is very unlikely you will be able to read and annotate this book, write a quality speech, produce your video, take on the learning curve of captions and annotations on YouTube, deal with technical issues, and be ready for the first day of class if you wait until two weeks before school begins. We are estimating that the writing of your speech, production of video, and subtitles/captions could take between 5-10 hours total IF you are not trying to do it all at once. Remember delays and exhaustion just lead to making mistakes and a slow process. For students who need help, there will be a work day on 08/08/17 in room 130 from 12:00-4:00 OR at the Starbucks on Little Rd. (check room 130 first for a sign) where you can come up and ask questions. This will be come-and-go; you can stay and work or ask your questions and go - whatever works for you.

*If you do not have access to technology at home over the summer, please make plans to go to one of the many Arlington public libraries in advance. **Remember:** a lack of effort and preparation on your part does not constitute an emergency on the part of your teachers. With that in mind, however, should you have specific questions about the technical aspects of the project, you may email Mrs. Basham at [obasham@aisd.net](mailto:obasham@aisd.net). Expect at least a 24 hour turn around time for responses, and that emails sent on a weekend will not be answered until the following Monday. Begin with enough time, and you will be fine. : )*

### **Summer Assignment Checklist**

- Buy the book
- Read and annotate the book
- Choose a "Fool on the Hill" topic
- Choose 5 rhetorical strategies, 7 rhetorical devices, and two fallacies from *TYFA* to use in your speech.
- Write your speech using those 5 rhetorical strategies, 7 rhetorical devices, and two fallacies, remembering to include a concession and a refutation AND that the essay should be in MLA or APA format (depending on your class) AND following the other requirements above. *\*Polysyndeton used to emphasize that nothing should be forgotten.\**
- Shoot or create a video and upload it to YouTube on either of your Google accounts.
- Insert your essay/speech/transcript as subtitles/captions.
- Insert your **explanations** for all 5 rhetorical strategies, 7 rhetorical devices, 2 fallacies, 1 concession and 1 refutation **above the text of your speech in the description box identifying the strategy/device/fallacy/refutation and brief reasoning/rationale for use and linked timestamp (remember beginning AND end stamp) for each.**
- Paste your entire essay/speech/transcript in the description box of your video as well as a full citation to the book and a link to where to buy it online.