

# AP Seminar Summer Assignment

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Google Classroom: hg7zzzi

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**Objective:** To familiarize oneself with common vocabulary and discussion points used in AP Seminar. To explore a variety of meaningful topics through the lenses of scientific, environmental, economic, political/historical, artistic/philosophical and cultural/social. To use the QUEST concept to develop research and writing skills.

Question and explore  
Understand and analyze arguments  
Evaluate multiple perspectives  
Synthesize ideas  
Team, transform, and transmit

## **Task:**

- 1) Join our Quizlet classroom here: <https://quizlet.com/join/MqfbNVsNy>
  - Create a Quizlet set using the attached vocabulary terms and definitions that are attached. We will be using these terms beginning on the first day of class, so please be prepared.
  - We will have several quizzes over these terms and definitions. The first one will be on the first day of class.
  
- 2) Choose a topic of interest from “The New York Times Room for Debate” (this site presents many topics debated by several authors) site here: <https://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate>.
  - Write a response (no more than 1000 words) that includes the lenses applicable to each of the arguments on your choice topic, each author’s point of view, the strengths and weaknesses of each argument (is it credible?) and any information that confirmed or challenged your thinking.
  - Include at least two quotes from each author, cited using MLA format. Please reference Purdue Owl for help here: [https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/mla\\_style/mla\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide/mla\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_formatting_and_style_guide.html)

*Please turn in this portion of the assignment on Google Classroom by the first day of school, August 17, 2023.*

*The rubric for this part of the assignment is at the end of this document*

## AP Seminar Glossary

**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: an understanding 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.

**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

Summer Work Rubric  
 “Room For Debate”

	<b>Absent/ Incorrect 0 Points</b>	<b>Does not fully meet expectation 2 point</b>	<b>Meets expectation 4 points</b>
Lenses			
Authors’ points of view			
Strengths & weaknesses of each argument			
Your thinking challenged/confirmed			
Two quotes per article			
Writing conventions (capitalization, punctuation, spelling)			

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_/24