Dear AP Student:

We are pleased that you have accepted the challenges of AP courses. These courses are designed to challenge you with a depth of knowledge and experience you will encounter on the college level. The rewards of each course are the skills developed in each discipline.

As teachers of AP, we strive to provide students with all the steps in the process to becoming successful by interacting with the materials in various ways. Our hope is that as students encounter obstacles in working through material, they will work diligently and productively to overcome them. Such is the reality of progress and growth.

Such progress can be stunted, however, when students rely on methods other than themselves and academically accepted discussions with peers and mentors to work through the challenges placed before them. We have all been warned of the dangers of plagiarism, and we are aware of the consequences when we copy someone else's work without attribution, when we ask someone else to do our work for us, when we buy work online, and other such situations. Now, we must be aware that using ChatGPT or any other such AI generator falls under the category of plagiarism as well. When you tell a machine what you need and it creates it for you, you have done no work of any significance. You have not worked your brain. You have not overcome any obstacles.

Therefore, beginning this school year, all summer assignments that can be submitted to turnitin.com will be submitted. As such, please submit the following document to turnitin.com in its entirety (though you are welcome to delete this first page). Any assignment receiving a high AI percentage will receive no credit. Additionally, I *highly recommend* that all students exclusively use Google Documents to type their work as a way to authenticate that no AI generator was used.

With this in mind, approach all of your studies with purpose and diligence.

Regards,

FSAPS AP Staff

AP SEMINAR 10

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

Hello! And welcome to your sophomore English course, AP Seminar 10. The purpose of this course is twofold: first, we will be studying literature from around the world, specifically focusing on literature written by non-Western authors, and two, we will be fulfilling the requirements for AP Seminar 10, which include (but are not limited to) essay writing and presentation skills. We'll begin our study of literature with the Ancient Greeks and Aristotle's *Poetics* when school starts, but until then I ask that you read and complete the following assignment:

1. **Watch this video.**
   Before reading Sophocles's *Oedipus Rex*, please watch this video, which goes over important information about the origins of Greek theater.
2. **Read and annotate Sophocles's *Oedipus Rex*. Upon your return to school in August, you will partake in a reading test about the content of the play.**
   I suggest purchasing this version of the text because it contains both the summer reading assignment *and* the first text that we will read together at the start of the year. (Do not read *Antigone.*)

   As you read and annotate the play, pay attention to the main ideas/arguments that are developed throughout the text by different characters. This will come back to help you later in our other assignments at the start of the year.

DUE DATES
Oedipus Rex Reading Test on **Tuesday, August 4th.**

Oedipus Rex

Summer Reading Test Study Guide

Important Words

Catharsis
Hamartia
Hubris
Anagnorisis
Deus ex machina

Things to Know

Oedipus's, Jocasta's, and Creon's values
Oedipus's, Jocasta's, and Creon's characteristics
Oedipus's hamartia
Characters and their relationship to Oedipus
Plot of *Oedipus the King*
Topics and themes present in *Oedipus the King*

Short Response Questions

There are 3 short response questions on the test; these questions are worth the most points and you will be scored on your ability to a) answer the question correctly and b) provide thoughtful analysis of the text in your answer. I have provided you with five possible questions that may be on the test in order to help you prepare.

Remember, you MUST cite direct evidence from the text to get full credit and you MUST include the correct MLA citation.

1. What role has the hamartia, or tragic flaw, played in the demise of Oedipus in the play? Cite specific textual evidence to support your answer.
2. A foil character is a character in literature who has characteristics that contrast those of the main character. Explain how Creon serves as a foil to Oedipus and cite specific evidence from the text to support your answer.
3. Consider Oedipus's characteristics and hamartia- what is the relationship between his characterization and the plot in *Oedipus the King*? Cite specific evidence from the text to support your answer.
4. How does Oedipus express his love for the people of Thebes during his reign as king? Use specific evidence from the text to support your answer.
5. Sight vs. blindness is an important topic in the play thus far. How has this topic been portrayed in the play and why is it significant to the overall theme? Cite specific evidence from the text to support your answer.