AP English Language

***Thank You For Arguing* by Jay Heinrichs**

*Thank You For Arguing* covers the core rhetorical teachings of Aristotle and Cicero, but Heinrichs does it entirely using modern examples, drawing on political, marketing, workplace, and cultural references, as well as his own family arguments. One paragraph discusses Socrates; the next discusses Sherlock Holmes. The balance between formal lessons and practical examples makes the book highly valuable and applicable to everyday speaking and writing. Among other things, you will learn:

• A deeper understanding of ethos, pathos, and logos

• Many figures of speech

• How to recognize strong and weak logical arguments

• How to recognize (and use, or defend against) persuasive techniques

• How to construct a persuasive language in speaking and writing

Though you are required to read the entire book, you will turn in handwritten notes on the first day of school on the following chapters only (chapter numbers will vary among editions of the book):

Set Your Goals

Soften Them Up

Get Them to Like You

Control the Mood

Control the Argument

Spot Fallacies

Give a Persuasive Talk

Handwritten notes on the above chapters

For each chapter, you should have at least a page of notes with the following elements: summary of the chapter, rhetorical devices, definitions, and one specific example in which Heinrichs puts his theory into practice.

***Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis**

The following questions should be answered in well-developed paragraph(s) and submitted on the first day of school. In addition, expect to complete graded assignments based on this novel during the first weeks of class.

1. Identify several tactics Screwtape suggests to Wormwood for him to get “the patient” back on their side. Use specific examples from the text. In addition, explain ways that “the patient” can overcome Wormwood’s tactics.
2. How does Lewis develop the theme of overcoming temptation?
3. Explain the quote, “God relies on the troughs even more than on the peaks; some of his favourites have gone through longer and deeper troughs that anyone else” (Lewis).