

Part 1: Rhetorical Précis

Read three opinion/editorial articles written no earlier than June 1, 2020. Your articles must come from reputable sources (*The Washington Post*, *The New Yorker*, *The Wall Street Journal*, etc.) – no blogs. Provide a link and a four-sentence rhetorical précis for each article. Follow the specific instructions below to generate each précis. The assignment should be typed and turned in on a single sheet of paper on the first day of school. Please provide source information or a URL for each article (**30 process points – due: 9/1/20 – deadline: 9/4/2020**). Should the start date of next school year change due to COVID-19, the assignment due/deadline date will be adjusted accordingly.

Explanation:

Rhetorical Précis – a description of an argument and context an author presents in a text. It is a summary of sorts that includes a basic analysis of how a writer sets out to achieve his/her purpose.

Guidelines:

Sentence One: Name of author, genre, and title of work, date in parentheses; a rhetorically active verb; and a THAT clause containing the major assertion or thesis in the text.

Sentence Two: An explanation of how the author develops and supports the thesis.

Sentence Three: A statement of the author’s apparent purpose, followed by an “in order to” phrase.

Sentence Four: A description of the intended audience and/or the relationship the author establishes with the audience.

Example:

<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9B0DE5D9143FF935A25753C1A9639C8B63>

In his essay, “Mind over Muscle” (2005), David Brooks asserts that girls are more successful than boys in school because school curriculums and practices are more “female-oriented.” Brooks uses statistics and first-hand accounts to support this claim. Brooks’ essay is a call for educational reform that considers curriculum and practices designed to engage and motivate male as well as female learners. He appeals to what is most likely an educated and influential audience as a fellow advocate for equitable educational opportunities.

Part 2: Required Reading

Read a non-fiction narrative that is at least 200 pages. You may choose the title, but it must be a “new read” for you (it may neither be something that you have read previously in school or otherwise, nor may it be something that is required for another AP summer assignment). There will be an in-class assignment in the first two weeks of school to assess your knowledge of the book. Choose something that interests you!

E-mail an AP Ms. Wood with any questions:

Ms. Wood (woodk@calvertnet.k12.md.us)