

**AP Language and Composition  
Summer Reading Assignment 2009  
Northview High School**

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**Titles:** The titles should be available both new and used at [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com), the Read It Again bookstore in the Kohl's shopping center (770-232-9331), and public libraries.

*Mountains Beyond Mountains* / Tracy Kidder

*The Poisonwood Bible* / Barbara Kingsolver

*Ella Minnow Pea* / Mark Dunn

Rice Rhetorical Strategies packet – must be obtained through Northview website

**Comprehend:**

1. Learn all of the terms in the Rice Rhetorical Strategies packet. The packet is available for download through the summer reading link on the website. You will be tested on these strategies in the first week of school.
2. Read all three selections. If you purchase copies of the books, write in them. If you borrow library books, use post-it notes. Mark them up. Question them. Challenge them. Underline important passages; make notes and comments in the margins; circle key words. Do whatever seems necessary for you to get close to the text. Keep them for class discussion.

**Write:**

An essay is in essence a conversation of sorts whereby you discuss a topic and make an assertion on that topic. When you make a claim, back it up with details and evidence for support either from the original text or from reputable secondary sources. Cite all sources and include a Works Cited page when secondary sources are used.

**Pay attention to the specific requirements for each assignment.**

All assignments must be typed and prepared using MLA format. If your essays are not in MLA format, they will be returned to you until they are corrected which will constitute a deduction of points for late work (15% per day). (Check the NHS website for the MLA style manual through the media center and language arts links.)

The completed written assignments are **due the first day of school** and constitute your first major grades in AP English Language. Please have the essays stapled individually and compiled in a manila folder with your name on the tab and ready to turn in. Fifteen points per day will be deducted for late work.

All three essays will be electronically submitted to [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) within the first two days of school. The class ID and password will be given the first day of school.

**Students who plagiarize summer work will be removed from the class. Be sure you read the plagiarism statement on the NHS website through the language arts or summer reading link.**

**Assignments:**

1. After reading *Ella Minnow Pea*, write a 500 word essay that addresses the following questions: *How is Nollop affected by the enforced impoverishment of its language? In particular, what effects does this shrinkage have on the relationships and interior lives of Nollop's citizens? Do these developments strike you as believable? What is this novel trying to say about the way language shapes our relationships with others and our sense of self?* Include quoted material from the original text to prove your assertions. Use MLA format for internal citations.
2. From *The Poisonwood Bible*, choose one of the characters whose names appear as chapter titles. Write a 500 word essay in which you discuss how Kingsolver differentiates between that character's voice and the voice of the others. In other words, what if Kingsolver had not titled the chapters with the speakers' names, how could we tell if the character you chose were speaking? Include quoted material from the original text to prove your assertions. Use MLA format for internal citations.
3. Research: Find two articles which detail information on the state of healthcare in developing countries. Print the articles and include them with your summer work. Using the articles you researched plus *Mountains Beyond Mountains* as sources, write a 500 word persuasive essay which addresses your position on what role United States citizens should or should not play in addressing health issues in developing countries. You should have an MLA formatted Works Cited page. All quoted and non-quoted material taken from your sources should have internal citations.