

AP Language and Composition

Summer Schema Building

Schema: an underlying organizational pattern or structure; a conceptual framework. Schema provides the basis by which someone relates to the events he or she experiences.

Some AP Language teachers have categorized schema into the following categories: **c**urrent events, **h**istory, **e**xperience, literature, **p**op culture, **s**ports, and **s**cience (CHELPSS)

This assignment is a fact-gathering, critical thinking challenge to broaden your knowledge of the world around you. It is designed to help you build your personal schema by gathering high-quality information which you will then have as you develop and support your own arguments and think critically about the arguments of others. Ultimately, all arguments are based on evidence, which might include facts, statistics, expert testimony, examples, anecdotes, or other appeals to our beliefs and needs. Effective argument relies on a variety of evidence. The better informed you are, the more evidence you have at your disposal when you need it (for example, when taking the AP Lang exam or trying to convince your parents that you should be able to do that thing you really want to do.)

The Task: Choose 4 “schema builders” from the chart on the next page, each from a different category. For each schema builder, complete the following:

- a. **Identify your source**
- b. **Identify the schema category** (current events, history, experience, literature, pop culture, sports, and science)
 - Look at the list. There are lots of choices. You will find that some schema-builders fit into more than one category. For example, an Academy Award winning documentary about the 1960s could fit in pop culture or history. Label it with the category that makes sense to you.
- c. **Write a paragraph** or so, *thoughtfully* answering the following questions:
 - What do I know/understand now that I didn’t before?
 - How did this experience change the way I think about something?
 - What is a thought, idea, or perspective that I might not have considered if I hadn’t encountered this material?

Be prepared to submit your summer assignment to Canvas within the first few days of school.

Have a great summer! We can’t wait to meet you.

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SCHEMA BUILDERS

C	<p>Current Events</p> <p>Find your schema builders in newscasts, articles, podcasts, etc. Remember that NCHS has provided you with a NYT subscription. There is also a list of passwords for the databases on the library's website if you need it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> current event: local <input type="checkbox"/> current event: national <input type="checkbox"/> current event: world 	P	<p>Pop Culture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Academy Award winning movie-any year <input type="checkbox"/> award winning movie-any award <input type="checkbox"/> documentary <input type="checkbox"/> TED talk <input type="checkbox"/> newscast <input type="checkbox"/> podcast
H	<p>History</p> <p>*If you read a book for APUSH summer reading, you can use it for this category.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> documentary on a historical time, place, event, or person <input type="checkbox"/> movie based on historical events or people <input type="checkbox"/> book: historical fiction <input type="checkbox"/> book: non-fiction on a historical time, place, event, or person <input type="checkbox"/> article: about historical time, place, event, or person <input type="checkbox"/> article: of historical significance (written at the point of history) <input type="checkbox"/> speech: video, audio, or text with historical significance <input type="checkbox"/> museum visit 	S	<p>Sports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> article <input type="checkbox"/> newscast <input type="checkbox"/> documentary <input type="checkbox"/> podcast <input type="checkbox"/> book - nonfiction
E	<p>Experience (Personal)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> view a piece of art that has some kind of significance (well-known or not, but not your little cousin's refrigerator masterpiece) <input type="checkbox"/> visit a museum: real or virtual 	S	<p>Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> article <input type="checkbox"/> documentary <input type="checkbox"/> podcast <input type="checkbox"/> book - nonfiction
L	<p>Literature</p> <p>*You may NOT use a book that you've read in previous classes (other than APUSH summer reading).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> fiction: free choice, but you are encouraged to seek out something challenging and/or AP level. <input type="checkbox"/> non-fiction: memoir, biography, self-help, true crime, etc. 		