

Welcome to AP Seminar with Mrs. Harkema



You are about to embark on a journey into deeper thinking and creative problem solving. The following 3 tasks are meant to get you thinking like a young and effective researcher. You will compile your work into a small and tangible research portfolio with a cover page that states your name, the name of the class, my name, and the date it is due: August 7, 2023. I will help you compile your work during the first week of school, but it is imperative you complete these tasks prior to the first week of school.

First, watch this TedTalk about a man who saw a problem in his community and did something about it. Take some notes about the video that you found interesting as a future researcher and problem solver. These can be bullet points and brief. Please also include your reactions to what you see and hear, thoughts and ideas that come to mind while watching, and what ideas come to mind from watching it.

Google Search: Ted Talk Guerilla Gardener

https://www.ted.com/talks/ron_finley_a_guerrilla_gardener_in_south_central_la

Second, take a series of photos of things in your immediate world that are problems you are interested in to get you thinking like a researcher. You need to curate (select and present) 6 photographs that capture something in your world that you are interested in answering or fixing, and then write a paragraph explaining what you notice and why you care about it. These should be photographs taken by you. Go places and explore! Check out your local neighborhood, parks, schools, museums, streets, community centers, shopping centers, malls, grocery stores, churches, hiking trails, restaurants, water parks, etc.

Finally, do some small research for each of your 6 photograph topics and include an article that is related to it. You will need to annotate each article. Your annotations will be more than simply highlighting. Only 20% of the articles should be highlighted and the other 80% needs to be actual notes that also include your understanding and application of the AP Seminar Glossary words below. You need to look for these elements in the articles and label them in the articles.

AP Seminar Glossary:

Alignment- Cohesion between the focus of an inquiry, the method of collecting information, the process of analysis of the information, and the conclusions made to increase understanding of that focus

Argument - A claim or thesis that conveys a perspective developed through a line of reasoning and supported by evidence

Bias- A personal opinion, belief, or value that may influence one's judgment, perspective, or claim

Claim -A statement made about an issue that asserts a perspective

Commentary- Discussion and analysis of evidence in relation to the claim that may identify patterns, describe trends, and/or explain relationships

Context- The intent, audience, purpose, bias, situatedness, and/or background (larger environment) of a source or reference

Credibility- The degree to which a source is believable and trustworthy

Evidence- Information (e.g., data, quotations, excerpts from texts) used as proof to support a claim or thesis

Implication- A possible future effect or result

Inductive - A type of reasoning that presents cases or evidence that lead to a logical conclusion

Inquiry- A process for seeking truth, information, or knowledge through a study, research investigation, or artistic endeavor/work

Lens- Filter through which an issue or topic is considered or examined

Line of Reasoning - Arrangement of claims and evidence that leads to a conclusion

Tone -The way in which an author expresses an attitude about his or her topic or subject through rhetorical choices

Validity- (argument) - The extent to which an argument or claim is logical validity

- (research) - The extent to which conclusions of an inquiry accurately address the variables to be measured or align with the authenticity of the observations made

Vocal variety - Changing vocal characteristics (e.g., pitch, volume, speed) in order to emphasize ideas, convey emotion or opinion, or achieve other specific purposes