AP Language Summer Reading Assignment

To prepare you for the concepts, skills, and workload required for success in AP Language, you will complete an assignment that includes reading the nonfiction book *Freakonomics* by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner (available for checkout from the Everett High library) and completing the chapter-by-chapter reading journal described below.

Your reading and accompanying journal should be completed by *the first day of school*. Bring the book and reading journal with you to class and be prepared to discuss the book and your analysis both verbally and in writing.

Reading Journal Instructions

Complete the following tasks **for each chapter** of *Freakonomics*. Include page numbers in parenthetical citations for each quote.

1. Select and copy three or more quotes from each chapter. For each quote, respond thoroughly to the following questions.

    A. What argument is the quote attempting to support?
    B. Which argumentative appeal are the authors applying with this quote? How do you know? (See next page for explanation about argumentative appeals.)
    C. What is your reaction to the quote? Why did you choose it?
    D. Does the quote effectively support the argument? Why or why not?
    E. What question would you like to ask the authors or purveyors of the information set out in the quote you chose? What more information would you like to know?
    F. What is the significance of the information or opinion posited by this quote? Who does it potentially impact? How?

2. Choose at least five terms that are either confusing, striking, or new to you from each chapter. In your own words, write the **denotation** for each term. Considering the context of the term, describe the **connotation**.

3. What are **biases** you notice in each chapter? (Remember, bias includes what is presented, how it is presented, and what is deliberately *not* included).

4. What **audience** would be most receptive to the ideas put forth in this chapter? Why? Which audiences might be offended? Why?

5. How is credibility established for each of the sources named in this chapter? Is it sufficient? Explain.

6. Describe the organizational structure for this chapter (how it builds the argument). Is it easy-to-follow? Is it effective?

Types of Appeals

Logical Appeals (Logos) are based on rational arguments and are supported by specific, credible evidence (statistics, credible sources, arguments premised on reason, and the inherent logic of a situation).

Example:

"According to U.S. Census Bureau statistics from 2007, the mean the mean high school graduate income was $31,286, roughly $26,000 less than the $51,181 earned by college graduates. Over the course of a 45-year working life, that amounts to $1.17 million. Even a two-year associate's degree provides an average of $180,000 more than a high-school diploma in a lifetime. A doctorate adds more than $2 million to a worker's pocket, given the average annual salary of $80,977."

Emotional Appeals (Pathos) are based on experiences or potential experiences designed to create an image that evokes emotion.

Example:

"Former Ringling Bros. Chief Financial Officer Charles Smith said, "One person at the circus died of this type of TB. Children who rode the elephants at the circus were constantly exposed to it." Another former Ringling employee stated in an affidavit, "They blow moisture from their trunks, hitting people in the face."

Ethical Appeals (Ethos) are based on shared moral values and call upon an audience's sense of morality, justice, patriotism, ideals, etc.

Example:

"The United States justifies the lawfulness of its communications surveillance by reference to distinctions that, considering modern communications technology, are irrelevant to truly protecting privacy in a modern society. The US relies on the outmoded distinction between 'content' and 'metadata,' falsely contending that the latter does not reveal private facts about an individual."

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact me:

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