



## English 3 AP

### Required Summer Assignments

Welcome to AP English Language and Composition! Prior to the course, you will complete two assignments. Please read/view the works and take notes as you read; do not accept an Internet site summary or "analysis" as a substitute. Please bring *Outliers* the first day of class. You will take an objective test over the required works and write one timed in-class essay as well.

*Outliers: The Story of Success* by Malcolm Gladwell debuted in 2008 on *The New York Times* bestseller list. Through a series of case studies, Gladwell insists that we have all too easily bought into the myth that successful people are self-made; instead, he says they “are invariably the beneficiaries of hidden advantages and extraordinary opportunities and cultural legacies that allow them to learn and work hard and make sense of the world in ways others cannot.” Gladwell defines an outlier as a person out of the ordinary “who doesn't fit into our normal understanding of achievement.” According to Gladwell, great men and women are beneficiaries of specialization, collaboration, time, place, and culture. An outlier’s recipe for success is the synthesis of opportunity and time on task. He includes case studies to support his thesis: for example, why the majority of Canadian ice hockey players are born in the first few months of the calendar year and how Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates achieved his extreme wealth. Throughout the publication, Gladwell repeatedly mentions the “10,000-Hour Rule,” claiming that the key to achieving world-class expertise in any skill, is, to a large extent, a matter of practicing the correct way, for a total of around 10,000 hours (Little, Brown).

Select a documentary from the list provided and complete the Documentary Film Analysis. Many of these titles are available from public libraries or through online video streaming sources such as Netflix, Amazon, or YouTube. You MUST have parent/guardian approval before viewing the documentary. Documentaries may or may not be rated due to the category they fall under, but this does not mean the documentary will be free of graphic, violent, or inappropriate images.

#### Documentary Options

- *The Cove* (2009)
  - *Miss Representation* (2011)
  - *Inequality for All* (2013)
  - *Forks Over Knives* (2017)
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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_

## Documentary Film Analysis

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Year Released:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Director:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Topic :** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Part A: Visual and Audio Elements of the Documentary**

As you watch the film, take notes about what is presented and how it is presented. Always consider the message you think the filmmaker is trying to present, their position on the subject of the film. Include specific examples from throughout the film that appeal to you—those strong images and ideas, whether you agree with what is presented or not.

### **What do you see?**

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| <p>1. List 3-5 images that you see and appear to be significant as you view the film. These images may include text, subtitles, or statistics. As you list each image, include a description of it—i.e., colors, placement of objects, text used (if any), etc.</p> <p><i>*Draw a star next to the ideas/images you find most persuasive or convincing.</i></p> | <p>2. What tone or feeling does the filmmaker create with these images? Explain.</p> <p>3. What point might they be trying to make? Explain.</p> |
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<p>4. Provide at least one example of each of the following types of audio tracks used in a documentary. Describe the sound of each example to the best of your ability, as well as the general or usual context in which it is used.</p> <p><i>*Star the sounds you find most persuasive or add the most to the point you feel the filmmaker is trying to make.</i></p>	<p>5. What tone or feeling does the filmmaker create with these sounds? Explain.</p>
<p>a. Narration or voice over track:</p>          <p>b. Background music track:</p>          <p>c. Other sounds:</p>	

6. Note how the camera angles, lighting, or editing contribute to create an atmosphere in the documentary. List at least 2 things worthy of mentioning that the filmmaker does to enhance the message.	7. What tone or feeling does the filmmaker create with these effects? Explain.

**8. What is the overall mood or tone of the film? Does it change through the course of the film? How?**

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**Part B: The Rhetorical Strategies**

Identify examples of the rhetorical strategies as presented in the documentary film. You may refer to your notes or find additional examples from the film. It may be a good idea to view the film a second time, but that is not required. For each example you identify, explain the effect on the viewer/audience.

9. List 3 examples where the filmmaker appears to establish **ETHOS** through visual elements, audio, and/or written text. Briefly describe each example.

10. How do these examples affect the audience or message? Explain.

11. List 3 examples where the filmmaker appears to appeal to **LOGOS** through expert testimony, quantitative data, inductive and deductive reasoning.

12. How do these examples affect the audience or message? Explain.

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13. List examples where the filmmaker appears to appeal to **PATHOS** through visual elements, audio, personal anecdote, humor, etc.

14. How do these examples affect the audience or message? Explain.

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**Part C: Final Evaluation of the Documentary**

15. What is the central message of this film?

16. What do you find to be the film's strengths? Briefly explain.

17. What do you find to be the film's weaknesses? Briefly explain.

18. How do you think the filmmakers want the audience to respond? What *action* or *significant understanding* do the filmmakers expect the audience to take or have by the end of the film? Explain.