AP Seminar Summer Reading Assignment 2025

In AP Seminar you will develop and practice the skills in research, collaboration, and communication. You'll investigate topics in a variety of subject areas, write research-based essays, as well as design and give presentations both individually and as part of a team. As required summer reading, you are to complete <u>two</u> assignments. Both assignments are due on the second day of class.

Assignment #1: Read the article, "Will Artificial Intelligence Replace Us or Empower Us?" by Peter Coy. Print and annotate the article. Your annotations should include, but should not be limited to, underlining or highlighting evidence and claims in two different colors–annotation is a requirement for all texts read in AP Seminar. If you do not have access to a printer, you may print to PDF and then use a digital editor to annotate.

Consider the following three prompts as you annotate.

1. **Identify the author's argument, main idea, or thesis.**
2. **Explain the author's line of reasoning by identifying the claims used to build the argument and the connections between them.**
3. **Evaluate the effectiveness of the evidence the author uses to support the claims made in the argument.**

Once your annotations are complete, **write your response to each of the prompts in turn** (please number the responses so I know where one ends and the next begins). The response to the first prompt should be a paragraph while the responses to the remaining two prompts should be a multi-paragraph response (not really an essay, but you need more detail and organization than a single paragraph allows).

The article for this assignment:

"Will Artificial Intelligence Replace Us or Empower Us?" by Peter Coy — https://www.nytimes.com/2025/01/13/opinion/artificial-intelligence-jobs.html?searchResultPosition=4

(If you have trouble with this link, the article is provided in PDF form on the PVHS website.)

Assignment #2: Survey the noteworthy publications below on a weekly basis throughout the summer, keeping an eye out for topics to explore in the upcoming school year.

A. Daily Newspapers

      1. The New York Times

      2. The Guardian

B. Magazines/Journals

      3. The Atlantic

      4. Nature

C. Blogs/Web Portals

      5. Arts and Letters Daily

      6. 3Quarks Daily Sources

Several of these publications offer free but limited access to their content, so be judicious in your browsing. I would suggest that if you do not have a public library card you should go visit your nearest library and get one. Once you do this you can download Hoopla or Libby and access their books, periodicals, and movies digitally. I have been using them both for several months and it is wonderful! You can quickly and easily download anything that the library has in their catalog.

With permission, you may substitute publications of similar form and quality. Options that are permitted without permission are the Associated Press, ProPublica, Harper's Magazine, The Financial Times, The Wall Street Journal, Aeon, or The Pew Research Center. For any other outlet, you will need to Schoology message me for permission.

Assignment

- Following the steps below, analyze one article that interests you from each category.
- Print the published article. You should then annotate and analyze the article using both the SOAPStone and RAVEN notes on the next page.
- Neatly handwrite your SOAPStone tables and staple them to their corresponding articles. (You may also type and print these if you are worried about the legibility of your handwriting)
- Be prepared to submit your work on the second day of class. If you have trouble printing, you may download your articles as PDFs and use a digital editor to annotate. You must still handwrite your SOAPStone tables. (The final page of this assignment is a blank table for you to use but you can simply recreate it on a sheet of paper if you do not have the capability to print).
- You will also need to be prepared to present the article that you found the most intriguing.

SOAPStone	Answer
S- Speaker	What are the speaker's credentials? What can you infer about their background, perspective, and potential biases? (What, for example, are their ideological leanings?) *Underline the passage(s) in the article that led you to these conclusions.*
O -Occasion	What occasioned the writing of the article? (What prompted the piece? What is its historical/cultural/intellectual context?) How did the occasion shape the piece (in terms of, for example, structure and genre?) *Highlight whatever led you to these conclusions.*
A -Audience	What can you infer about the audience's beliefs, values, and potential reactions? (Who, for example, is the speaker's interlocutor/opponent, and what might they say in response?) *Highlight whatever led you to these conclusions.*
P -Purpose	What is the speaker's main goal? (Are they trying, for example, to change opinion, provide information, share results, provoke emotions, further a cause?) To what extent have they succeeded? (Is their article clear, engaging, compelling?) *If the speaker stated their purpose explicitly, highlight the passage where they did so; otherwise, highlight the passage(s) from which you inferred their aim.*
S -Subject	Provide an abstract of the article. An abstract is a paragraph-length summary (approximately 250-words) that 1) states the article's main idea or thesis, and 2) sketches out its line of reasoning (claims that develop the argument). (Ignore details, examples, digressions, and anything else not essential to fulfilling the requirements just mentioned.) *If the article is scientific, state the main results reported and the method by which they were obtained.*
Tone	What attitude does the speaker convey and how? (How would you characterize their "voice"? Consider stylistic elements such as connation, imagery figurative language, and the selection of detail.) *Highlight a couple of passages that capture the speaker's tone.*

RAVEN	Answer
R -Reliability	Are they reliable? Why or why not?
A -Ability to observe	Does the author have access to reliable information? Did the author actually see the event firsthand?
V -Vested interest	Does the author have a personal stake in telling the truth or lying? Is money or exposure connected?
E -Expertise	Does the author have specialized knowledge on the topic? Does the evidence come from an expert?
N -Neutrality	Is the author neutral or biased? Is the evidence neutral or biased?

SOAPStone	Answer
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O -Occasion	
A -Audience	
P -Purpose	
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Tone	
RAVEN	**Answer**
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