



Harlan High School

SUMMER READING

Advanced English II 2025-2026

Welcome to Advanced English II! This class will focus largely on a reading and writing analysis, which examines the choices authors use to influence their audience and achieve their purpose.

Thus, with an eye toward eventual rhetorical analysis, students enrolled in **Advanced English II** are expected to choose **ONE** Ted Talk narrative from the list below to view and analyze over the summer.

Please know that you are strongly encouraged to print the transcript of your chosen Ted Talk. The transcript will come in handy as you analyze the video and take notes and annotations. **If you do not have the ability to print, we suggest that you make a copy of the transcript so that you can edit the document to add in your notes and annotations.**

Notes and annotations can be especially helpful when studying a piece. It involves marking aspects of the text that you find important or influential, and making comments for yourself in order to remember why you marked what you did. Although your notes and annotations will not be graded, they will help you prepare to perform an in depth analysis over your chosen Ted Talk narrative at the start of school, as it is easier to relocate choices the author uses when you can simply read back over your comments to yourself, rather than reviewing the entire Ted Talk.

Watching and reading from this list will prepare you for:

- ☐ analyzing the effect of the narrative voice on the text
- ☐ determining the rhetorical situation (persona, audience, purpose, and exigence)
- ☐ analyzing specific rhetorical choices (tools/strategies/techniques) the author uses
- ☐ performing a rhetorical analysis over the Ted Talk that will incorporate specifically quoted rhetorical choices and analyze the effect of those choices on audience and purpose
- ☐ responding to your reading in a variety of ways to include evidence-based discussions and written responses
- ☐ experimenting with incorporating an anecdote in informative writing

Ted Talk Choices

(please select only ONE Ted Talk)

Please Note: Recognizing that Advanced English II is a high school course and our reading features mature content, *be sure to personally research the choices* below before selecting the one you'd prefer to read and study.

["The Danger of a Single Story" by Chimamanda Adichie](#)

["I Survived a Terrorist Attack. Here's What I Learned" by Gill Hicks](#)

["Embracing Otherness. Embracing Myself" by Thandiwe Newton](#)

["In Search of the Man Who Broke my Neck" by Joshua Prager](#)

*****Please either print or make a copy or this [Graphic Organizer](#) to assist you in analyzing the speech.*****

For further information:

Please contact Mrs. Gutierrez at brenda.gutierrez@nisd.net during the summer, I will usually respond to emails within one week's time.