

AP Language and Composition

Summer Assignment 2022

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Novel: *The Time Keeper* (<https://www.amazon.com/Time-Keeper-Mitch-Albom/dp/0316311537>)

Author: Mitch Albom

Due Date for all of Parts 1 & 2: The First Day of the First Full Week of Classes

Part 1:

Objectives

- Describe and analyze author's intentions, rhetorical features, and strategies. Reflect on the effect they have on you as a reader
- Consider the definition of "argument" and look for features of argument in *The Time Keeper*

Task: Read the book and then complete the following components. This assignment is due on the first day of school. You must purchase a hard copy of the book to complete this assignment (no digital copies please). See the Amazon link above.

1) Annotations

As you read *The Time Keeper*, annotate your copy of the book for the following:

- Quotes or passages that stand out or seem central to the author's argument
- Personal connections or reactions
- Observations about style, tone, diction, and syntax
- Observations about argument (use of evidence, logic, anecdotes, emotional appeals, etc)
- Words or phrases that confuse you (you might define unfamiliar words in the margin)

Tips for annotating:

- Mark the text with symbols (underlining/highlighting, stars, smiley faces, brackets, etc)
- Write in the margins of the text (questions, personal reactions, summaries, connections to other parts of the book, analysis, evaluation)
- Tab important pages with sticky notes or by circling the page number
- It might help to use symbols or color coding as you annotate.

2) Dialectical Journal

Choose **10 quotes** from *The Time Keeper*. Each quote must be at least 10 pages apart. For each quote, take notes on the following:

- Personal connections or reactions
- Observations about style, tone, diction, and syntax
- Observations about argument (use of evidence, logic, anecdotes, emotional appeals, etc)

Each quote's reaction does not need to respond to all three; choose what is most relevant for the quote. These are notes. They do not need to be formal (first-person is acceptable), but please make them clear. Please type these notes. Here's an example. You could organize yours like this: (see over)

Quote	Page number	My Notes
<p>“The doctor speaks softly. “There’s not much we can do,” he says. ” Months of treatment have not worked. The tumors. The kidneys.” Victor’s wife tries to speak, but the words catch. As if sharing the same larynx, Victor clears his throat.</p> <p>“What Grace wants to ask is...how much time do I have left?”</p>	5	<p>This passage happens very early in the book and sets a tone for the question of how we have lived our lives. Victor and his wife seem to be very connected as she is overwhelmed by the news. The author gives an image of the swirl of emotions one may face hearing such news and as his wife falters, Victor is strong for her. The author uses the collective pronoun we - meaning we are all part of something bigger than just ourselves even though there are times we feel alone. His final question to the doctor feels like it might be the guiding question of the book.</p>

3. Class Discussion

We will have a seminar discussion about *the time keeper* the first week of school. I will tell you more about seminars and how they are graded the first week of school. It’ll be FUN!

Part 2: Notes on Rhetorical Moments

Objectives:

- Observe the function of texts in your environment and analyze rhetorical features.
- Consider the effect that audience, occasion and purpose has on the form of an argument

Task: Over the summer, pay attention to other forms of writing or communication you interact with or encounter. Choose three other “texts” you came in contact with this summer and analyze the intended purpose, message, and audience and then identify features in the piece that contribute to its effectiveness (or ineffectiveness!). Think of “text” broadly; these can be commercials, sermons, podcasts, articles, video games, TV shows, movies, books, or...? This assignment is due on the first full day of classes.

****Choose three texts total. Choose at least one visual/audiovisual text (that is, anything you see/watch/hear) and at least one written text (that is, anything you read).****

Audiovisual Texts	Written Texts
posters, shows, movies, podcasts, songs, print ads, video games, sermons, comics/memes, photo essays, youtube videos, commercials	essays, articles, books, poems, short stories

Do the following for each text:

1. State the title and author, if it has one, or invent a title if it does not (e.g. Doritos Commercial, Maybelline Print Ad, etc)
2. Describe it or summarize it.
3. Describe when and where you saw it/read it/heard it.
4. Who do you think the text is directed toward? How can you tell?
5. What do you think the text was trying to do to the audience (to you, maybe?) How can you tell?
6. What are the most striking stylistic features in the text? (these can be visual or auditory if it is other than a written text). What effect do they have?