**AP Language Research Project**

This year, instead of a research paper, you are going to turn your well-researched argument into a visual argument, modelled after the white board presentations on RSA Animate. You can find more examples on <http://www.thersa.org/events/rsaanimate>. Links with tips and instructions will be available on my website, [www.mariahmccune.weebly.com](http://www.mariahmccune.weebly.com)

**Purpose:**

The majority of arguments around us every day are not merely written down. They are also the speeches we watch, the advertisements on our television, the cartoons in the editorial section of the newspaper. This project will give you practice in not only creating a coherent synthesis based on research, but also in understanding that visuals can be an essential part of forming an effective argument.

**Grading Criteria:**

A rubric will be handed out to you as soon as we can. Know that you will receive three scores for this assignment: one for the quality of the research, one for the quality of your argument, and one for the quality of the visual product that you create.

**Due Dates:**

Choose Topic: Semester 1

Proposal and Thesis Due: January 22

Research Notecards (40) and Works Cited Due: February 4th

Outline Due: February 11th

Script Due: February 18th

Sketches and Script Revisions Due: March 4th

Video Filming: March 5th to March 26th

**Final Product Due: March 27th**

**The Short Proposal**

A short proposal identifies five essential ingredients of your proposed work:

* The specific topic
* The purpose of the paper (explain, analyze, argue, etc.)
* The intended audience (be specific)
* You voice as a writer (informer or advocate)
* The preliminary thesis

Here is the proposal of Norman Berkowitz:

The world is running out of fresh water while we sip our Evian. However, the bottle water craze signals that we don’t trust our fresh tap water. We have an emerging crisis on our hands; some authorities forecast world’s wars over water rights. The issue of water touches almost every facet of our lives, from religious rituals and food supply to disease and political instability. I might frame this hypothesis: Water will soon replace oil as the economic resource most treasured by nations of the world. However, that assertion would prove difficult to defend and may not be true at all. Rather; I need to look elsewhere at human behavior, and at human responsibility for preserving the environment for our children. Accordingly, this this paper will examine (1) the issues with regard to supply and demand. (2) The political power struggles that may emerge, and (3) the ethical implications for those who control the worlds scatter supply of fresh water.

**Please make sure your proposal address the following requirements:**

* A short background of the topic (3-5 sentences)
* A working thesis (hypothesis/claim) (1 sentence) ----- “I propose this thesis\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”
* The issues / specific areas of research your paper will examine (3-5).
* The connection you see between your research topic and your summer reading (1-3 sentences).

You must follow this format.