AP English Language and Composition
Summer Reading 2016: Outliers Essay Assignment
Due: Friday, August 12th

Writing Assignment:
In his book *Outliers*, Malcom Gladwell argues that “there’s no such thing as a self-made man and that super achievers are successful because of their circumstances, their families, and their appetite for hard work.” To what extent do you agree with Gladwell? In a well-organized essay, support your answer with references and examples from the book *Outliers* to support your response.

Essay Requirements:
- Essay should be between 500 and 1000 words long. Your works cited page does contribute to your word count.
- Essay should use at least 3 quotes from the text. Use proper MLA Citation format and include a works cited page.
- Essay should be typewritten and meet the content and formatting guidelines (see attached essay rubric)
- Essay must be your own original work. Any instances of plagiarism will result in an immediate schedule change and possible disciplinary action in accordance with the forthcoming Adair County High School Academic Honesty policy.
- For this assignment, essays must be submitted in hard copies (printed). If you have printer needs or concerns, please let me know in advance.
- Essays and reading guide MUST be submitted by Friday, August 12th, or an immediate schedule change will be made, and you will not be permitted to stay in the AP Language and Comp course.

Need Help?
- Feel free to email me over the summer. My email is victoria.leibecka@adair.kyschools.us
- Lose your packet? Did a friend lose theirs? The assignment and a link to the PDF will be up on my teacher webpage. Go to the Adair County High School Website, click on Teacher Web Pages, and then find me. You will see a class already set up for AP Language with links to the materials.
- Not sure how to cite? Check out Purdue OWL’s tips on MLA in-text citations. https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/03/

Stay Connected!
- Sign up for the AP Lang Remind! See the last page for the link/class code. The chat function is enabled for this class, so you will be able to message me with any questions or concerns throughout the summer.

Have a great summer! See you in the Fall! ☺️
Vicki Leibeeck  
AP Language and Composition  
August 12th, 2016  
Outliers Essay

Title Should Be Centered Here

Your Outliers Essays and all subsequent essays should be submitted in the following format: 12 point Times New Roman Font with 1 inch margins and double spaced. Make sure that under the Paragraph tab, your spacing reads “0 pt” both before and after. Include a header in the top left-hand corner that lists your name, class, due date, and assignment. Be sure to indent (hit Tab) at the beginning of each new paragraph.

If a word count is assigned, write (or type) the word count at the bottom of the final page. Speaking of numbers, be sure to add page numbers to each page (they can be found under the Insert ribbon, in the Header and Footer column under Page Number). Students should select numbers for the top of the page and choose option “Plain Number 3,” adding their last name to the page number. Be sure to check “Different First Page” when adding page numbers so that your page number and last name do not appear on the first page. You will also need to change the font of your page number header to match your essay.

All typed papers from this point forward should be formatted as follows, or a maximum of 10 points for proper formatting will be subtracted from your overall assignment score. This is the practice of colleges around the state and country, and these are basics that are sometimes taught within the first few weeks of a college writing course. A checklist will be included on the back of this formatting sheet. It is recommended that you keep this sheet to refer to and use the checklist before submitting any typed assignment for this class.

To ensure that assignments are submitted properly and on time, and to avoid wasting valuable class time, I request that if at all possible, papers be printed or on a jump drive and ready to print at the start of class. Papers may also be submitted via email, but this must be done before class time (11:20) on the due date of the assignment, or 5 points will be deducted from the total assignment score.
Works Cited


(Yes, you can use my citation. It's correct)

Word Count: 414
Outliers Essay Rubric

1. **Content (60 points)**
   - Shows a clear understanding of the task with an effective, suitable, defendable thesis statement. (15 points)
   - Significant components of the work are identified and effectively integrated. (15 points)
   - Offers ample, specific, and logical development of ideas in relation to the thesis statement. (15 points)
   - Maintains a clear focus on responding to the specific task throughout the essay (15 points)

2. **Organization (15 points)**
   - Ideas are effectively organized and logically sequenced with clear paragraph structure throughout. (5 points)
   - The introduction, and conclusion are well-developed and effective. (5 points)
   - Effective transitions are used between paragraphs (5 points)

3. **Language (10 points)**
   - The response demonstrates a good command of language; sentences are varied and word choice is varied and precise. (5 points)
   - There are few, if any, errors that distract the reader. (5 points)

4. **Formatting (10 Points)**
   - 12 point Times New Roman Font (1 point)
   - Essay uses 1 inch Margins and is double spaced between lines and 0 pt spacing before and after (2 points)
   - Header in top left-hand corner with name, class, due date, and essay assignment (2 points)
   - Pages are numbered and labeled with student’s last name and different front page. Font of page number matches the font of the essay (1 point)
   - Essay should have a title that is not “My Essay” or “Outliers Essay” or any version of such (2 points)
   - Each new paragraph is indented by using “Tab” only once (1 point)
   - Word count is written or typed at the bottom of the page and essay meets word count requirements (600-1200) (1 point)

5. **MLA Citations (5 points)**
   - Essay correctly uses at least 3 quotes from the text and includes a proper works cited page (5 points)

**FAILURE TO SUBMIT AN ESSAY AND THE READING GUIDE BY FRIDAY, AUGUST 12TH WILL RESULT IN AN IMMEDIATE SCHEDULE CHANGE**

Total Points: _____/100
Ms. Leibech would like you to join AP English Language and Composition!

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