

**Summer Assignment 2017**

**Required Texts:**

*Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal*, by Eric Schlosser  
Documentary--*Supersize Me: A Film of Epic Portions*. Directed by Morgan Spurlock.

**Directions:**

**1. Obtain a copy of Schlosser's book.** You can find it easily on Amazon or at your local bookstore. You will need your own copy so you can annotate the text.

**2. Read the book, including the introduction.** For each set of chapters (and the introduction), you will complete the tasks listed below (Responses). Questions must be answered using complete sentences and complete thoughts.

- What is the main idea (for each set of chapters)? Your answer should have a topic sentence and supporting sentences. You should provide at least two direct quotes from the text to help support your answer.
- What is the author's purpose (for each chapters)? This is not the same thing as the main idea. The author's purpose answers the question of WHY is the author writing this, whereas the main idea is the WHAT is the author writing about. Your answer should have a topic sentence and supporting sentences. You should provide at least two direct quotes from the text to help support your answer.
- Lastly, and for the purposes of this class and the AP Language and Composition Exam, HOW does the author achieve their purpose? To answer this question, you will need to look at the structure of the chapter, as well as the rhetorical devices the author uses to present and build his case. I am aware you may not be well versed with rhetorical structure and devices; however, please do your best with this question. Use your intuition, experience, and skill as a reader and thinker to answer this question. You should provide two examples (can be direct quotes or paraphrase) to answer this question.

The responses for each set of chapters should be about one to two pages in length total—that means about ½ page to answer each of the above questions. Be concise yet thorough with your answers. Cite your direct quotes in-text. If it is easier, you may type (word process) your answers. Here are the breakdown of chapter sets:

- The Introduction
- Chapters 1-4: from “The American Way”
- Chapters 5-7: from “Meat and Potatoes”
- Chapters 8-9: from “Meat and Potatoes”
- Chapter 10: Globalization

**3. Watch the documentary *Supersize Me*.** It can be easily found on YouTube, so you do not need to buy your own copy. Make sure you read the novel and complete the accompanying written assignments first, then watch the documentary. Once you have completed the documentary, answer the following questions. Questions must be answered using complete sentences and complete thoughts:

- What is the central idea of this documentary? Your answer should have a topic sentence and supporting sentences. You should provide at least two direct quotes from the documentary to help support your answer.
- What is the director’s purpose? Again, this is not the same thing as the main idea. The director’s purpose answers the question of WHY they made the film, whereas the central idea is the WHAT is the documentary is about. Your answer should have a topic sentence and supporting sentences. You should provide at least two direct quotes from the documentary to help support your answer.
- Lastly, HOW does the director achieve their purpose? To answer this question, you will need to look at the structure of the documentary, as well as the rhetorical devices the director uses to present and build his case. Again, I am aware you may not be well versed with rhetorical structure and devices; however, please do your best with this question. Again, use your intuition, experience, and skill as a listener and thinker to answer this question. You should provide two examples (can be direct quotes or paraphrase) to answer this question.

**Allotting Time:**

Please make sure you provide yourself with enough time to complete this assignment. Including the documentary, there will be six total responses of 1-2 pages each. I suggest you complete the response directly after reading each chapter set. If you put all the writing off until the end, it will be a painful process and it will be more difficult for you to remember the contents and subtleties of each chapter set.

**All work is due on the first day of school. It will be 20% of your first quarter grade.**