

AP Language and Composition
Summer Assignment
Mr. Jason Zencka

Hello 12th grade AP-ers! (AP-ites? Apes?)

I'm thrilled to be your teacher this year! My goal with our class is to read a slew of interesting texts while examining a single theme. For the time being, I'll call this theme "Writing for Change"—in brief, we'll spend the year using (mostly) nonfiction essays, research, and journalism to ask questions about how writing can be used to persuade individuals and communities. For now, focus your energies on reading John Carreyrou's *Bad Blood* and Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle* and completing the writing assignment I've included here.

I look forward to meeting you all!

JGZ

Step 1: Keep a reading journal for both John Carreyrou's *Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley* and Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle*. Your writing should aspire to the style of a personal rather than an academic essay. In other words, you should freely include your own observations, questions, emotions, or even personal narratives as you respond to each text. (Feel free to use Stephanie Powell Watts's essay on *The Great Gatsby* at LitHub¹ as a stylistic model.) Including direct quotations from each text in your journal is highly recommended. You should aim at writing an entry of three-hundred words (minimum) for each hundred-and-fifty pages you read. Journals should be typed.

Step 2: Write a brief typed essay (600-1000 words) in which you examine how one or more of the authors or characters uses (or misuses) *pathos* (or emotion) as a way to persuade someone. Essays should adhere to MLA citation guidelines.

¹ <https://lithub.com/i-love-the-great-gatsby-even-if-it-doesnt-love-me-back/>