Dear Students,

Félicitations on being accepted into the French AP Language and Culture class for the 2019-2020 school year! To keep your French skills fresh and make sure you are prepared to hit the ground running in September, you will need to practice your reading, writing, listening and speaking skills this summer. The following summer assignment is designed with those goals in mind. The summer assignment will be due September 13th and will count as a test grade. Late assignments will lose five points per day.

My hope is you will spend time practicing French above and beyond the summer assignment because in order to excel in French, you must be exposed to it as much as possible. For that reason we will be speaking ONLY FRENCH in class.

Amusez-vous bien cet été et soyez bien préparés à travailler dur en septembre!

Cordialement,

M. Starace

Summer Assignment:

The following assignments must be typed (double-spaced), printed and handed to me by the due date which is Sept. 13th. I will not accept online submissions.

1. Join Google Classroom. The class code is: z3apd7q. Please check it a few times over the summer as I may post helpful tips and will be able to answer questions. I’ll check it every few weeks.

2. Learn more about the AP exam: Go to apcentral.collegeboard.com and register (it’s free). Then go to the AP tab and then go to the French Language and Culture course homepage. Please read through the documents to understand the format of the French Language and Culture AP examination. See: https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-french-language-and-culture/exam?course=ap-french-language-and-culture In English: write one paragraph explaining the format of the exam. Write a second paragraph explaining what sections may be difficult for you and what you’ll do to prepare for them. In a third paragraph, explore the class website: www srstarace info and describe what resources will be useful to you on the site for AP French. (worth 10 points)

For the following writing assignments be sure to use a dictionary or wordreference.com to look up words. Do not use an online translator. Online translators do the thinking for you and they always do a terrible job! I can easily tell if you use an online translator and no credit will be given for those assignments. Also, do not use articles and journal entries you’ve previously submitted for French class because that is self-plagiarism.
3. **Reading:** Read 3 newspaper articles in French and write a one paragraph summary in your own words in French for each article. Find five new vocabulary words per article and define them. The articles must be at least 5 paragraphs long (not counting one or two line paragraphs). You must cite your sources by giving the website, title of the article and the date. Articles should be about the different AP themes below as much as possible. Be prepared to present articles in class. The following are examples of French language news website but you may use others. (worth 30 points)  
Online news websites: (See the class website sr.starace.info) lemonde.fr, liberation.fr, leparisien.fr, parismatch.com, monde-diplomatique.fr, journaldemontreal.com, lapresse.ca, jeuneafrique.com, etc.

Try to find articles that align with the six themes on the AP Exam: (note that religion, politics and sports are not part of the AP curriculum so do not choose articles about them.)

1. Les Défis Mondiaux (Global Challenges)
2. La Science et la technologie (Science and Technology)
3. La Vie Contemporaine (Contemporary life)
4. La Quête de Soi (Personal and Public Identities)
5. La Famille et La Communauté (Families and Communities)
6. L’Esthétique (Beauty and Aesthetics)

4. **Writing:** Write 3 journal entries of one paragraph (minimum 8 sentences of varying length) each. You can write about anything you’d like. Use your imagination! You must clearly state the topic of the entry in your topic sentence and include a concluding sentence. (worth 30 points)

5. **Listening:** Listen to online French radio, television, podcasts (iTunes) or French music (YouTube, Spotify etc.). For 3 different broadcasts or songs list: the title of the story or name of the singer, name of the song, at least 2 new vocabulary words and define them. If it’s a song you can easily look up the lyrics online. Write a one-paragraph summary in French for each broadcast or a summary of the song’s lyrics. (See the class website sr.starace.info) Here are some other good websites for listening exercises: rfi.fr, europe1.fr, rtl.fr, tv5.fr, tf1.fr, radiofrance.fr, radiocanada.ca, rtbf.be/radio, france2.fr, francel24.fr. (worth 30 points)

The following activities are recommended and will not be collected or checked, but they will help a lot if you do them.

6. Choose grammar topics you feel are difficult for you. Read and then complete the online grammar exercises.
   
   https://www.thoughtco.com/french-grammar-4133074
   http://www.languageguide.org/french/grammar/
   http://www.laits.utexas.edu/tex/gr/index.html (Tex’s French Grammar)

7. In addition to the above assignment, you need to read, write, listen and speak as much French as possible. Use the above links and links on the class website (srstarace.info) to read more newspaper articles online, listen to French music, podcasts, movies, etc. and speak French to anyone you know who also speaks French.