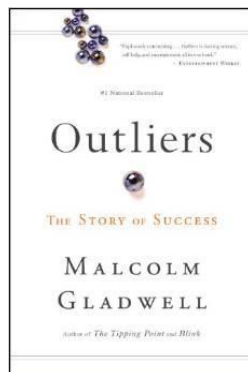


# *Outliers*

## Summer Reading Assignment

### AP Language and Composition - Perry High School 2025-2026



**Selection:** *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell

**Rationale:** This highly acclaimed work contains the elements of persuasion, expository, and narrative and will serve as an introduction to 11<sup>AP</sup> Language and Composition

**Objectives:** To read and reflect on the work in its entirety  
To understand how a writer uses language & choices to create message and meaning

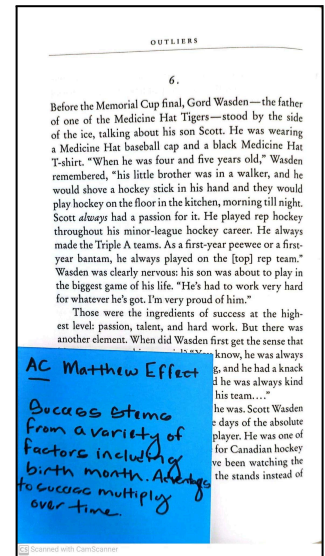
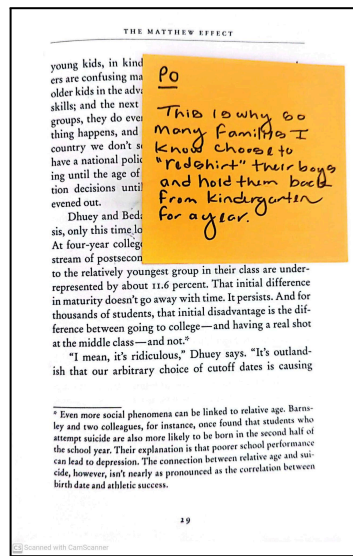
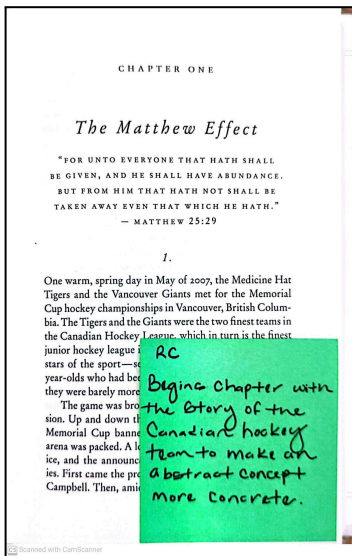
**Assignment:** Students should purchase a copy of the book. This will provide an opportunity for annotation and allow students to begin building their own libraries.

In addition to reading the book (including the introduction and the epilogue), students will annotate the book focusing on the following areas.

- **RC-rhetorical choice:** the author's purposeful use choice that helps illustrate or strengthen the author's claim for that particular chapter. Please reference [this video from Coach Hall Writes](#) or [this handout from Dr. David Joliffe](#), former chief reader for the AP Lang and Composition test, for more information about rhetorical choices.
- **PO-personal observation:** moments in the text that create a thought from your own life whether it be an emotional connection or a shared experience
- **AC – author's claim:** place this at the end of each chapter – what claim about success does Gladwell develop in this chapter?

We highly recommend you either label your annotations with a code (**PO**, **RC**, **AC**) or use colored sticky notes to indicate the type of notation you make. Do not merely label a particular portion of the passage. Comments are required to explain your thoughts.

Please see the examples below for some guidance on how to complete your annotations.



## Grading:

You will be evaluated for annotations in three areas:

- Consistency of annotations throughout the work
- Variety of focus comments PO, RC, AC
- Depth of comments

This assignment will be due August 8, 2025 along with a comprehensive test. Your teacher will go over this assignment again at the start of the school year. While you are NOT expected to annotate every page (or even every other page) the expectation is to be consistent and thorough.

For further clarification, please email Mrs. Schultz: [schultz.mara@cusd80.com](mailto:schultz.mara@cusd80.com) or Mrs. Vincent: [vincent.lylah@cusd80.com](mailto:vincent.lylah@cusd80.com)