**AP BIOLOGY SUMMER ASSIGNMENT**

**Purpose:** This summer you will delve into the world of biology like you never thought you would! We will explore many topics, focusing mostly on biochemistry and evolution, to whet your appetite for the coming year of hard work.

This summer assignment has been designed for several reasons:

* To get you to think during those summer months and keep your mind sharp, because I will expect a lot out of you come September!
* To expand your vocabulary by familiarizing yourself with terms that we will be using in class.
* To introduce you to major concepts from AP Biology through non-classroom methods of learning.
* To have you earn strong grades to help you begin the first quarter with confidence.
* To allow you to review some of the knowledge that is considered prerequisite knowledge for AP Biology.

**Instructions:** Below is a list of items to complete for your summer assignment. You must complete work on the Biochemistry Unit using your textbook (scanned below) and other resources. The chapters in your text that are included in your summer reading assignment will not be covered in class. Therefore, you are responsible for understanding all of the material.  These concepts are considered to be pre-requisite knowledge according to the College Board. You will find that much of this assignment may be a review of concepts covered in Biology and Chemistry (although you will find more detail this time around). There will be a test during the first few days of class, on the biochemistry concepts covered in the textbook. It may consist of multiple choice questions along with several free response questions from past AP Biology exams.

You will also be required to read a book entitled “Survival of the Sickest” by Sharon Moalem. While reading this book you will complete a question assignment on each chapter and several passage assignments. Both assignments are uploaded in a separate document.

**Due Dates:** All assignments must be completed.

1. **Letter of introduction:** due by emailed to me by 11:59 pm **August 26th**.
2. **Biochemistry questions:** reading guide and questions will be collected on first day of class.
3. **Online ACCESS to My AP Classroom for AP Biology: Access:** access must be acquired by **August 30th.**
4. **Survival of the Sickest:** assignment must be submitted to me by **October 2nd.**

**LETTER OF INTRODUCTION:** We are going to spend a lot of time together next year, so it’s best if I get a head start onlearning a bit about you. Also we will use the Internet for this course, so let’s get you used to communicating with me via e-mail.Your first digital assignment is to successfully send me an e-mail.

**Due date: 11:59 pm August 26th**

**Draft an e-mail to me following these rules:**

a. Use clearly written, **full sentences**. Do not abbreviate words like you are instant messaging with a friend. Use **spell check**! This is a professional communication like you would have with a professor, so let’s practice for your rapidly approaching future in college!

b. Address it to me at: **Rinaldog@pcsdny.org**

c. Make the **Subject**: “AP Bio: Introduction to <Insert Your Name Here>”

(Do not include the quote marks or the brackets, just the words)

d. Now introduce yourself (your name) and tell me a little bit about yourself, like:

· What do you like to do (hobbies, sports, music, interests, etc.)?

· Do you have a job?

· Tell me a little bit about your family (Mom? Dad? Guardian? Siblings? Pets?)

· Was there anything that you liked about your earlier biology class?

· What was the last book you read for fun?

· What are you looking forward to the most in AP Biology?

· What are you most anxious about in AP Biology?

f. End the e-mail with a **formal closing**: “Cordially”, “Sincerely”, “Warm regards”, etc. and add your name as if you signed a letter.

**Due date: 11:59 pm August 26th**

**BIOCHEMISTRY WORK**: Interact with this material by: using the uploaded textbook chapters (1-4) and printing chapter reading guides, viewing presentations and/or watching videos/podcasts. Figure out what works for you. You do not have to use every resource, but you must able to answer the questions and understand the learning objectives.

Complete the chapter reading guide questions and the “Testing Your Knowledge Self-Quiz” for Chapters 1-4 and bring them on the first day of school.

* + Chapter reading guide questions and self-quizzes are uploaded to my website.
	+ All answers should be thorough and thoughtful. You should be sure to write coherently and in complete sentences.
	+ I READ your answers!

**ONLINE ACCESS to My AP Classroom for AP Biology:**

You must gain access to **My AP Classroom for AP Biology** and become part of our class by **AUGUST 30th**. Follow these instructions to register for our class:

* go to https://myap.collegeboard.org/
* Enter your login information in the sign in area or sign up if you do not have an account
* Select Join a Course or Exam
* Enter Code-Our code is Join Code: **JE2PG9**
* Explore available access

**SURVIVAL OF THE SICKEST**:

Read the book “Survival of The Sickest” by Sharon Moalem. You may borrow the book from the library, purchase it at a bookstore or even purchase it used on Amazon.

* As you are reading, please **complete the uploaded question assignment based on each chapter.**
* In addition, **complete the passage assignments as indicated in the assignment overview.**
* These assignments will be due on October 2nd.