



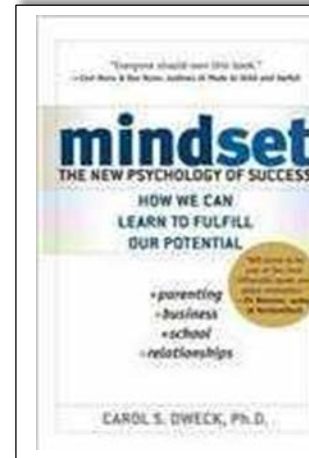
AP Language and Composition/Summer Assignment

METEA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH
DEPARTMENT

The Overview: We know that at this point in your life most of you have an idea of what you think you are naturally “good” at and areas where you think you are “bad” or weak. Our hope is that through reading *Mindset* and in thinking about your own life, you will begin to embrace the attitude necessary for success in AP Language; one of growth.

From Carol Dweck, author of *Mindset*: ***In a fixed mindset, people believe their basic qualities, like their intelligence or talent, are simply fixed traits. They spend their time documenting their intelligence or talent instead of developing them. They also believe that talent alone creates success—without effort. They’re wrong.***

In a growth mindset, people believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work—brains and talent are just the starting point. This view creates a love of learning and a resilience that is essential for great accomplishment. Virtually all great people have had these qualities.



The assignment:

1. Read the book! Annotate!

As you read and study the book, your annotations should focus on self-reflection. How do the ideas presented apply to you and/or other people that you know? In what ways have you seen Dweck’s research come to life in your experiences? Can you think of any extenuating circumstances counter to the ideas presented in the book?

2. Complete the chart to help you analyze your use of the different mindsets!

Use your analysis to help you organize your thoughts for your essay.

3. Write about it!

In a 2-3 page paper, synthesize evidence from your life (including examples of times you’ve used a growth mindset as well as times you have been stuck in a fixed mindset) along with evidence from Dweck’s *Mindset*, discuss the implication of your mindset on your successes and struggles in your life.

4. Format: 2-3 pages/MLA

5. Rubric: see page 2

6. Questions?

Please contact any of the following teachers:

erin_kulinski@ipsd.org

brittany_chen@ipsd.org

diane_tancredi@ipsd.org

Scoring Guide for Writing:

27-30: A Highly effective essays use strong evidence from both the student's life of both fixed and growth mindsets, paired with meaningful evidence from the book that supports his/her understanding of the experience. The evidence from the book is both direct and indirect and integrated skillfully into the narrative. The essay has cohesion and comes to a logical conclusion based on the experiences explored in the paper. The student takes a sophisticated and mature approach to future implications, based on past experiences. Formatting guidelines are adhered to.

24-26: Effective essays use relevant evidence from both the student's life of both fixed and growth mindsets, paired with evidence from the book that supports his/her understanding of the experience. The evidence from the book is integrated into the narrative. The essay has cohesion and comes to a logical conclusion based on the experiences explored in the paper. The student takes a logical approach to future implications, based on past experiences. Formatting guidelines are adhered to.

21-23: Adequate essays use minimal evidence from both the student's life of both fixed and growth mindsets, loosely paired with evidence from the book that supports his/her understanding of the experience. The organization does not distract from the ideas, yet lacks polish. The conclusion shows a rudimentary understanding of the book and the application to the student's life experience. Formatting guidelines may or may not be adhered to.

20 and below: Conference with teacher – essays of this nature are unsatisfactory and will warrant personal attention.



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An applicable example of fixed mindset in my life would be...	The direct/indirect results of this situation were...	A specific example from and/or parallel to Dweck's text would be...
Example 1		
Example 2		
An applicable example of growth mindset in my life would be...	The direct/indirect results of this situation were...	A specific example from and/or parallel to Dweck's text would be...
Example 1		
Example 2		
<p>Prompt: In a 2-3 page paper, synthesize evidence from your life (including examples of times you've used a growth mindset as well as times you have been stuck in a fixed mindset) along with evidence from Dweck's <i>Mindset</i>, discuss the implication of your mindset on both success and struggles in your life.</p>		