

AP Statistics Summer Assignment

25-26

The purpose of this assignment is to introduce you to the world of statistics. Students who will succeed in AP Statistics must have good reading comprehension and writing skills. Students will be expected to write all answers in complete sentences and put answers in context. For your summer assignment, you will be reading the book Outliers, by Malcolm Gladwell. This book references many of the topics and concepts that we will tackle in the course through a historical and real world perspective. Studies and experiments are documented throughout the book that apply statistical concepts and show how they are used in real life. In addition to its statistical connections, I am sure that you will find the book to be interesting reading.

After reading the book, you will address the questions posed on the attached STUDY GUIDE. You will answer selected questions from the STUDY GUIDE on a separate document in MLA format and submit this assignment on CANVAS within the first week of school. **You must address the questions for TWO CHAPTERS of your choice.** Answer all questions using complete sentences; integrate direct quotes or paraphrased supporting evidence (include page numbers for your references).

If you have any questions or concerns about the assignment, please feel free to contact me at knajim@ojrsd.net. I will be checking my email throughout the summer about once a week. Please do not wait until the last week of the summer to complete this assignment.

OUTLIERS: STUDY GUIDE

INTRODUCTION: The Roseto Mystery

- How does Gladwell define the term “outlier”?
- What does Gladwell imply about the role of community in Roseto?
- At the end of the introduction, Gladwell concludes with his purpose for the book. What is it?
- Offer a brief criticism of this opening. How well do you think the story of Roseto establishes Gladwell’s purpose?

CHAPTER ONE: The Matthew Effect

- What claim does Gladwell make regarding age grouping and accumulative advantage?
- What supporting evidence does he provide?

CHAPTER TWO: The 10,000-Hour Rule

- What is Gladwell’s claim in this chapter about the correlation between practice and success?
- What supporting evidence does he provide?

CHAPTER THREE: The Trouble with Geniuses, Part I

- What claim does Gladwell make in this chapter about intellect versus achievement?
- What supporting evidence does he provide?

CHAPTER FOUR: The Trouble with Geniuses, Part II

- What claim does Gladwell make in this chapter about practical intelligence and socioeconomic status?
- What supporting evidence does he provide?

CHAPTER FIVE: The Three Lessons of Joe Flom

- What claim does Gladwell make in this chapter about autonomy, complexity, and a connection between effort and reward?
- What supporting evidence does he provide?

OUTLIERS: STUDY GUIDE

CHAPTER SIX: Harlan, Kentucky

- What claim does Gladwell make in this chapter about the relationship between cultural legacies and behavior?
- What supporting evidence does he provide?

CHAPTER SEVEN: The Ethnic Theory of Plane Crashes

- What is Gladwell's claim in this chapter regarding the relationship between culture and our ability to succeed?
- What supporting evidence does he provide?

CHAPTER EIGHT: Rice Paddies and Math Tests

- What is Gladwell's claim in this chapter regarding the relationship between academic success, attitude, and culture?
- What supporting evidence does he provide?

CHAPTER NINE: MARITA'S BARGAIN

- What is Gladwell's claim in this chapter as it relates to the educational achievement gap and educational reform in the United States?
- What supporting evidence does he provide?

EPILOGUE: JAMAICAN STORY

- What impression does Gladwell give of his ancestors in the first part of the epilogue?
- In the second and third parts of the epilogue, what details does Gladwell give to help prove or reinforce the argument of the book?
- How does Gladwell connect the story of Daisy Nation to the stories of the other "characters" in his book?
- What is Gladwell's final conclusion about "outliers"?