**AP Comp Reading Assignments: Philosophy**

1. In *The Language of Composition*, read “The Happy Life,” by Bertrand Russell on pages 317-318.

When you are finished, answer questions 1-4.

1. In *The Language of Composition*, read “The Singer Solution to World Poverty,” by Peter Singer on pages 319-323.

When you are finished, answer questions 13.

1. In *The Language of Composition*, read “Lifeboat Ethics: The Case against Helping the Poor,” by Garrett Hardin on pages 324-333.

When you are finished, answer questions 1, 3, 4 and 5

**Essay:**

Branching off from our discussions of Bentham’s Utilitarianism, Kant’s Categorical Moral Imperatives, Russell’s Hedonism, and Hardin’s Lifeboat Ethics and Singer’s “Solution to World Poverty, ” come up with a way to address an issue such as poverty, world hunger or international economic disparity that takes into account what you believe is the moral and practical reasons to help others around the world as well as some of the complicating factors that we have found in the counter arguments (personal freedom, overpopulation, questions of political power).

In your argument, develop your own position, but synthesize your response from the texts we have read. Remember, your opinion alone is worthless—but as part of a “conversation” with some of the most respected minds of human history, you’ve got more than a real chance of convincing someone that your answer is the right one.

2,000- 2500 words, double-spaced.

Enjoy.