AP Classes

AP classes are college classes taken in high school. AP stands for "Advanced Placement." AP classes are very advanced, very hard, and require a great amount of studying and homework.

AP classes have two great benefits. First, AP class grades count one grade point higher than regular classes. An A in an AP class counts as five grade points rather than the usual four grade points. B's count as four grade points. C's count as three grade points. But a D still counts as only one grade point, just like in a regular class. So, AP classes really help your grade point average.

Another great thing about AP classes is that they really *are* college classes. At the end of each AP class, you take the AP exam for that class. If you pass the AP exam, you not only get high school credit for the class, but you also get college credit for that class. You will not have to take the class in college. Each AP exam that you pass means one fewer college class you will have to take. If you take and pass enough AP exams, you can enter college with half a year, or even a full year, of college classes already taken and passed.