

AP English Literature and Composition Course and Exam Description

The AP English Literature and Composition course focuses on reading, analyzing, and writing about imaginative literature (fiction, poetry, drama) from various periods. Students engage in close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, and symbolism. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works.

RECOMMENDED PREREQUISITES

There are no prerequisite courses for AP English Literature and Composition. Students should be able to read and comprehend college-level texts and write grammatically correct, complete sentences.

AP English Literature and Composition Course and Exam Content

Big Ideas

The following big ideas serve as the foundation of the course, enabling students to create meaningful connections among concepts. Each big idea correlates with an enduring understanding, a long-term takeaway related to the big idea:

- **Character:** Characters in literature allow readers to study and explore a range of values, beliefs, assumptions, biases, and cultural norms represented by those characters.
- **Setting:** Setting and the details associated with it not only depict a time and place, but also convey values associated with that setting.
- **Structure:** The arrangement of the parts and sections of a text, the relationship of the parts to each other, and the sequence in which the text reveals information are all structural choices made by a writer that contribute to the reader's interpretation of a text.
- **Narration:** A narrator's or speaker's perspective controls the details and emphases that affect how readers experience and interpret a text.
- **Figurative Language:** Comparisons, representations, and associations shift meaning from the literal to the figurative and invite readers to interpret a text.
- **Literary Argumentation:** Readers establish and communicate their interpretations of literature through arguments supported by textual evidence.

Course Skills

The following skill categories, tied to the big ideas, describe what skills students should develop during the course:

- Explain the function of character.
- Explain the function of setting.
- Explain the function of plot and structure.
- Explain the function of the narrator or speaker
- Argumentation
- ◆ Develop and support art historical arguments, Explain the function of word choice, imagery, and symbols.
- Explain the function of comparison. Develop textually substantiated arguments about interpretations of part or all of a text.

AP English Literature and Composition course and exam

UNIT 1 SHORT FICTION I	
1.A	Identify and describe what specific textual details reveal about a character, that character's perspective, and that character's motives.
2.A	Identify and describe specific textual details that convey or reveal a setting.
3.A	Identify and describe how plot orders events in a narrative.
3.B	Explain the function of a particular sequence of events in a plot.
4.A	Identify and describe the narrator or speaker of a text.
4.B	Identify and explain the function of point of view in a narrative.
7.A	Develop a paragraph that includes 1) a claim that requires defense with evidence from the text and 2) the evidence itself.
7.A	Develop a paragraph that includes 1) a claim that requires defense with evidence from the text and 2) the evidence itself.
UNIT 2 POETRY I	
1.A	Identify and describe what specific textual details reveal about a character, that character's perspective, and that character's motives.
3.C	Explain the function of structure in a text.
3.D	Explain the function of contrasts within a text.
5.B	Explain the function of specific words and phrases in a text.
6.A	Identify and explain the function of a simile.
6.B	Identify and explain the function of a metaphor.

7.A Develop a paragraph that includes 1) a claim that requires defense with evidence from the text and 2) the evidence itself.

UNIT 3 LONGER FICTION OR DRAMA I

1.A Identify and describe what specific textual details reveal about a character, that character's perspective, and that character's motives.

1.B Explain the function of a character changing or remaining unchanged.

2.A Identify and describe specific textual details that convey or reveal a setting.

3.E Explain the function of a significant event or related set of significant events in a plot.

3.F Explain the function of conflict in a text.

7.A Develop a paragraph that includes 1) a claim that requires defense with evidence from the text and 2) the evidence itself.

7.B Develop a thesis statement that conveys a defensible claim about an interpretation of literature and that may establish a line of reasoning.

7.C Develop commentary that establishes and explains relationships among textual evidence, the line of reasoning, and the thesis.

7.D Select and use relevant and sufficient evidence to both develop and support a line of reasoning.

7.E Demonstrate control over the elements of composition to communicate clearly.

UNIT 4 SHORT FICTION II

1.A Identify and describe what specific textual details reveal about a character, that character's perspective, and that character's motives.

1.C Explain the function of contrasting characters.

1.D Describe how textual details reveal nuances and complexities in characters relationships with one another.

2.B Explain the function of setting in a narrative.

2.C Describe the relationship between a character and a setting.

3.A Identify and describe how plot orders events in a narrative.

3.D Explain the function of contrasts within a text.

4.A	Identify and describe the narrator or speaker of a text.
4.B	Identify and explain the function of point of view in a narrative.
4.C	Identify and describe details, diction, or syntax in a text that reveal a narrator's or speaker's perspective.
7.B	Develop a thesis statement that conveys a defensible claim about an interpretation of literature and that may establish a line of reasoning.
7.C	Develop commentary that establishes and explains relationships among textual evidence, the line of reasoning, and the thesis.
7.D	Select and use relevant and sufficient evidence to both develop and support a line of reasoning.
7.E	Demonstrate control over the elements of composition to communicate clearly.
UNIT 5 POETRY II	
3.C	Explain the function of structure in a text.
5.A	Distinguish between the literal and figurative meanings of words and phrases.
5.B	Explain the function of specific words and phrases in a text.
5.D	Identify and explain the function of an image or imagery.
6.B	Identify and explain the function of a metaphor.
6.C	Identify and explain the function of personification.
6.D	Identify and explain the function of an allusion.
7.B	Develop a thesis statement that conveys a defensible claim about an interpretation of literature and that may establish a line of reasoning.
7.C	Develop commentary that establishes and explains relationships among textual evidence, the line of reasoning, and the thesis.
7.D	Select and use relevant and sufficient evidence to both develop and support a line of reasoning.
7.E	Demonstrate control over the elements of composition to communicate clearly.

UNIT 6 LONGER FICTION OR DRAMA II

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| 1.A | Identify and describe what specific textual details reveal about a character, that character's perspective, and that character's motives. |
| 1.C | Explain the function of contrasting characters. |
| 1.E | Explain how a character's own choices, actions, and speech reveal complexities in that character, and explain the function of those complexities. |
| 3.A | Identify and describe how plot orders events in a narrative. |
| 3.B | Explain the function of a particular sequence of events in a plot. |
| 3.D | Explain the function of contrast within a text. |
| 4.C | Identify and describe details, diction, or syntax in a text that reveal a narrator's or speaker's perspective. |
| 4.D | Explain how a narrator's reliability affects a narrative. |
| 5.C | Identify and explain the function of a symbol. |
| 7.B | Develop a thesis statement that conveys a defensible claim about an interpretation of literature and that may establish a line of reasoning. |
| 7.C | Develop commentary that establishes and explains relationships among textual evidence, the line of reasoning, and the thesis. |
| 7.D | Select and use relevant and sufficient evidence to both develop and support a line of reasoning. |
| 7.E | Demonstrate control over the elements of composition to communicate clearly. |

UNIT 7 SHORT FICTION III

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| 1.B | Explain the function of a character changing or remaining unchanged. |
| 1.D | Describe how textual details reveal nuances and complexities in characters' relationships with one another. |
| 2.B | Explain the function of setting in a narrative. |
| 2.C | Describe the relationship between a character and a setting. |
| 3.A | Identify and describe how plot orders events in a narrative. |

3.B	Explain the function of a particular sequence of events in a plot.
4.D	Explain how a narrator's reliability affects a narrative.
5.C	Identify and explain the function of a symbol.
5.D	Identify and explain the function of an image or imagery.
6.A	Identify and explain the function of a simile.
6.C	Identify and explain the function of personification.
7.B	Develop a thesis statement that conveys a defensible claim about an interpretation of literature and that may establish a line of reasoning.
7.C	Develop commentary that establishes and explains relationships among textual evidence, the line of reasoning, and the thesis.
7.D	Select and use relevant and sufficient evidence to both develop and support a line of reasoning.
UNIT 8 POETRY III	
3.C	Explain the function of structure in a text.
3.D	Explain the function of contrasts within a text.
5.B	Explain the function of specific words and phrases in a text.
5.C	Identify and explain the function of a symbol.
6.B	Identify and explain the function of a metaphor.
6.D	Identify and explain the function of an allusion.
7.B	Develop a thesis statement that conveys a defensible claim about an interpretation of literature and that may establish a line of reasoning.
7.C	Develop commentary that establishes and explains relationships among textual evidence, the line of reasoning, and the thesis.
7.D	Select and use relevant and sufficient evidence to both develop and support a line of reasoning.
7.E	Demonstrate control over the elements of composition to communicate clearly.

UNIT 9 LONGER FICTION OR DRAMA III

1.B	Explain the function of a character changing or remaining unchanged.
1.E	Explain how a character's own choices, actions, and speech reveal complexities in that character, and explain the function of those complexities.
3.E	Explain the function of a significant event or related set of significant events in a plot.
3.F	Explain the function of conflict in a text.
4.C	Identify and describe details, diction, or syntax in a text that reveal a narrator's or speaker's perspective.
7.B	Develop a thesis statement that conveys a defensible claim about an interpretation of literature and that may establish a line of reasoning.
7.C	Develop commentary that establishes and explains relationships among textual evidence, the line of reasoning, and the thesis.
7.D	Select and use relevant and sufficient evidence to both develop and support a line of reasoning.

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION EXAM: 3 HOURS

The AP English Literature and Composition Exam assesses student understanding of the skills and essential knowledge outlined in the course framework. The exam is 3 hours long and includes 55 multiple-choice questions and 3 free-response questions.

Další informace:

AP English Literature and Composition Course Overview – 2 stránky

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/pdf/ap-english-literature-and-composition-course-overview.pdf?course=ap-english-literature-and-composition>

AP English Literature and Composition Course at a glance – 4 strany

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/pdf/ap-english-literature-and-composition-course-a-glance.pdf?course=ap-english-literature-and-composition>

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<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/pdf/ap-english-literature-and-composition-course-and-exam-description.pdf?course=ap-english-literature-and-composition>