

Advanced Placement English Literature & Composition Exam

Essay Writing Advice

Questions 1 & 2 (Poetry & Short Prose Analysis)	Question 3 (Major Work Analysis)
<p>Mission: Demonstrate the ability to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) read poetry & short prose pieces and quickly understand them fully; 2) write a true analysis of the poetry or prose piece that fully responds to the prompt provided; 3) offer an assessment of theme and/or tone if the prompt requests it. 	<p>Mission: Demonstrate the ability to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) answer the prompt's question about a subject or situation (for example: development of character, character relationship, character's relation to time or place, character's relation to an issue) in terms of a well-chosen major literary work (novel or long play); 2) truly analyze the work in terms of the subject that the prompt directs you to explore in the work you select.
<p>Your thesis statement must</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) address what the prompt asks you to analyze in the poem or prose piece; 2) offer an opinion about what the prompt directs you to analyze-- this is where you must use your own descriptive wording as the first moment you demonstrate your understanding of the work; <p>** if the prompt asks you to analyze something (a character, relationship, setting, situation, etc.) that it categorizes as "complex," assert an opinion that describes the different levels or perspectives of the subject of analysis.</p>	<p>Your thesis statement must</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) address what the prompt asks you to analyze in the work you have selected; 2) articulate a full statement of theme. <p>*** remember that when the prompt says "meaning in the work" that is AP exam code for theme. A fully-developed theme statement based on the subject the prompt gives in terms of the major work you choose to write about is essential for establishing that you thoroughly understood the work and what the prompt asks you to do.</p>
<p>For Q1 & Q2 essay responses, be sure to analyze in terms of DEVICES and quote the text frequently!</p>	<p>For Q3 essay responses, offer specific & varied references to the text to demonstrate you know the work.</p>
<p>Possible DEVICES to consider using in your analysis: Diction, Imagery, Details, Language, Syntax, Figurative Language--simile, metaphor, symbol, personification, allusion, etc., Characterization, Setting, Contrast, Repetition, Point of view.</p>	<p>Possible elements/techniques to consider using in your analysis: Details from plot as they relate to character development, Setting, Point of view, Conflict, Contrast, Repetition or Parallels between character, setting, or plot points. Consider causes & effects as ways to develop the essay and NEVER summarize!</p>