

AP English Language and Composition 2009-2010 Information Packet

Dear A.P. English Language and Composition Student:

I would like to personally welcome you to the beginning of what I hope will be a great experience for you as a writer, reader, and critical thinker. The course you have chosen to take is unlike any of which you have experienced; the focus is on writing - both your own and that of some of the greatest literary artists spanning a vast array of styles and time periods. This is a demanding course with high expectations and standards that will force you to stretch your writing abilities and the way you view your world. *You should not have signed up for this class if you are only interested in a weighted grade and do not really want to put in the time it takes to be successful at this level.* Students who have done this in the past have met with poor results. Think seriously about the amount of time you will have to commit to this course because there are no easy grades and there is no easy way to become a better writer. However, if you are willing to read and write critically, participate fully, put in extra time, and take constructive criticism to become better, your experience will be both positive and enjoyable.

Finally, I would like to express my enthusiasm at having the opportunity to teach this class. I feel that it is a very worthwhile experience for students and a challenge for me as a teacher. I do not proclaim to have all the answers to all the questions you might have, but with your help and a lot of hard work, we can all learn together and come out on the other end as more capable writers and thinkers. I look forward to autumn and our first encounter.

Sincerely,

Gary Cordray, instructor

Assignments: These are due the first day of class. Exceptions will only be granted with prior approval. Email Mr. Cordray if you have a good reason. Do not wait until the last minute to begin. You may be dropped from this course for failure to complete this work.

Summer Assignment #1

Over the summer you will be required to read George Orwell's *1984*. This book, considered a staple of British Literature, takes a critical look at government control and cultural malaise, paying particular homage to the virtues of free thought and individual rights. As you read the book, try to get a sense of how Orwell develops his argument and why you might find these opinions to be accurate or flawed.

There is also a worksheet in the form of a language usage quiz you will need to complete. You **WILL NOT** understand every term, concept, and vocabulary word and you are not expected to at this point. However, you are expected to **ATTEMPT** every question on the sheets. I would simply like to introduce you to the manner in which we will be approaching the examination of the written word in this class. Also, I would like to challenge you a bit to search out information on your own, to be curious and not accept ignorance unchallenged. Feel free to work on this with another member of the class (if you know one), and be prepared to ask a lot of questions.

Summer Assignment #2

Write a response to the prompt that follows this page.

Guidelines: The answer should be a persuasive response that states a specific claim about the topic and supports that claim using specific examples from your reading, your experience, your background knowledge, or your life. There is no page limit, but keep in mind that a long essay is not necessarily a better essay. Be coherent in your writing and demonstrate a control of language that suggests you have a command of your subject. Do not write informally, but try to give the reader a sense of yourself in the piece. Keep your reader in mind at all times – persuade your audience that your claims are valid.

If you feel you do not understand the prompt, you have two choices: 1. ask someone else (another student, a parent, a teacher); 2. attempt to answer it the best you can. This essay will serve to establish a point of reference for you as a writer and for us as teachers. We will be grading it, but you will also be working with it in order to learn how to be a more effective writer.

This response should be typed, double-spaced, and use a 12 pt. font that is easy to read.

Contact Mr. Cordray with questions. Please do not expect an immediate response in the summer.

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Text Book Information

Students are expected to have a copy of each novel and text book outlined below.

<u>Novels, Authors</u>	<u>ISBN Numbers</u>
1. <i>1984</i> , by George Orwell (<i>summer</i>)	0-451-52493-4
2. <i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i> , by Oscar Wilde	0-486-26478-5
3. <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> , by Zora Neale Hurston	0-06-083867-1
4. <i>Into the Wild</i> , by Jon Krakauer	0-385-48680-4

There are two ways you may obtain a copy of each text.

1. Purchase the Texts at a Local Bookstore or Online:

It is accepted practice in AP classes for students to purchase their own copies of each novel and text book so they may annotate and interact with each one. In years past, the school has collected money and purchased the books, passing them out to each student when they arrive. This was, in part, due to the relatively small numbers of students and the fact that book stores were often far away and were very expensive compared to the educational prices at which the school could purchase books. However, due to the large numbers we are now dealing with in the AP English Language and Composition course (upwards of 140 students), and the accessibility of numerous book stores and Internet book sellers, we no longer purchase novels for students. We will give a list of all our texts and a rough number of the total students we expect to be needing those books to Barnes and Noble and Borders at Park Meadows and Southlands, and the Borders at Arapahoe Crossing.

2. Purchase the Texts From Another Student:

Because we are using nearly all of the same texts as the year before, it is perfectly acceptable to purchase your books from a previous year's student. Those students who are interested in selling their books have written their names and contact information on note cards and these are on display in room 112. Just come by at an appropriate time and take a card. If you choose to take this route, neither the teachers, the school, nor the district makes any guarantees about the condition of books nor the reliability of the book seller. However, in the past, we have had no problems and our students are very responsible and fair with each other. This is a great way to save some money.

* In addition, we highly encourage used books that are the correct edition (please check the ISBN numbers carefully). While it is very possible to use other editions than the ones listed above, at times it makes tests and discussions more difficult for the student. Two good used book sites are *www.alibris.com* and *www.bookfinder.com*, but Amazon and Barnes and Noble both offer used books on their websites.

*The Exception

One Hundred Great Essays third Edition, edited by Robert Diyanni ISBN-10: 0205535550
ISBN-13: 9780205535552

The exception to this procedure would involve, which is a college reading anthology. Because of pricing and availability issues, we **WILL** purchase this book for students. If we purchase them all together we get a huge discount. However, used copies purchased from the past year's students or online will still work just fine. Please pay particular attention to the edition and ISBN numbers if purchasing this on your own. Simply fill out the form on the next page, if you are going to purchase *One Hundred Great Essays*, and return it to room 112 by the first day of class in August.

If you are unable to purchase books, you may check one out for the year or summer. You may not write in these books, and anything more than normal wear and tear will result in a fine the equivalent of the new purchase price of the text. Please see Mr. Cordray in room 112 by May 21 if this applies to you.

_____ tear here _____

Book Order Form Due the first day of class in August

I would like to purchase this book new from the school. Price with shipping - \$45.

One Hundred Great Essays third Edition, edited by Robert Diyanni ISBN-10: 0205535550
ISBN-13: 9780205535552

Name _____

Check Number _____ Period _____

Advanced Placement English Language and Composition

Free Response Question

From talk radio to television shows, from popular magazines to Web blogs, ordinary citizens, political figures, and entertainers express their opinions on a wide range of topics. Consider the value of these opinions and whether or not this sort of free expression of thought fosters democratic values. Then, in a well-constructed response, take a position on the value of such public statements of opinion making sure to support your views with specific and appropriate evidence.

Writing Rubric

A Score of 9

- _____ Demonstrates the qualities of an 8 and...
- _____ Answers are especially full or apt in their analysis
- _____ Demonstrate a particularly impressive control of language far beyond that which is expected
- _____ Contain an implied or particularly complex claim (thesis) which is clearly explicit / implied in argument

A score of 8

- _____ Answer contains insight and originality
- _____ Use mature vocabulary and demonstrate a definitive control of language
- _____ Claim is clearly explicit or implied in argument
- _____ Contain many challenging concepts
- _____ Defends topic with specific support and explanation
- _____ Style breaks past formulas / is more organic
- _____ Contain very few errors

A score of 7

- _____ Answer question with more complete analysis than a paper receiving a 6
- _____ More mature vocabulary / sentence structure than a 6
- _____ Abundant evidence of ideas beyond ordinary

A score of 6

- _____ Answers the questions thoroughly
- _____ Some evidence of mature vocabulary / sentence structure
- _____ Some evidence of ideas beyond ordinary
- _____ Claim (thesis) is explicit, maybe a bit formulaic
- _____ Defends the topic clearly with ample support
- _____ Contains few errors

A score of 5

- _____ Meets all the requirements asked in prompt
- _____ Use age-appropriate vocabulary and sentence structure
- _____ Have ideas that are valid and make sense
- _____ Contains a thesis that is explicit but formulaic
- _____ Might support one idea better than another or have relatively weak arguments
- _____ Paper might contain simple summary or merely list some ideas
- _____ There are errors that begin to affect the meaning

A score of 4

- _____ Meets all the requirements asked in the prompt
- _____ Generally uses age-appropriate vocabulary and sentence structure
- _____ Most ideas are valid and make sense
- _____ Contains a claim (thesis) that is explicit but not well-developed
- _____ Is on topic most of the time
- _____ Generally summarizes or simply lists ideas
- _____ Errors do affect the meaning

A score of 3

Meet some of the requirements of the score of 4 but are less perceptive or less consistent in controlling the elements of language. These papers might be extremely hard to follow at times. They can be very surface level and may have many critical writing errors. Usually the thesis is not found or lacks appropriate focus.

A score of 2 or 1

Be incomplete or so hard to follow that it is unclear that the student understood the prompt, assignment, or topic.

Scoring Guide out of 25 pts.

- 9 - 25 pts.
- 8 - 24
- 7 - 23
- 6 - 22-21
- 5 - 20-19
- 4 - 18
- 3 - 17
- 2 or 1 - 16

Comments:

1984 Rhetorical Analysis Questions

Directions: Complete the following 35 multiple choice questions to the best of your ability. You will NOT know all the terms, vocabulary, or concepts. However, with a little curiosity and searching you can find most of these on your own, You will NOT be graded on how many of these questions you get right or wrong, but on the effort you show by completing the questions and carefully reading the novel. The page numbers given for each passage refer to the most recent edition of *1984*. If your book does not match up exactly, you should be able to find the passages with just a little searching. Bring this to class on the first day of school. Good Luck!

This part consists of selections from *1984* and questions on their content, form, and style. After reading each passage, choose the best answer to each question.

Note: Pay particular attention to the requirement of questions that contain the words **NOT**, **LEAST**, or **EXCEPT**.

Passage 1, Question 1-5

-Read the passage from *Section 1, Chapter 1* of *1984* which begins at the beginning of the chapter and ends “Minitrue, Minipax, Miniluv, and Miniplenty” (Pgs. 1-4). Carefully read the passage before you choose your answers.

1. The first two paragraphs contain descriptions that appeal to all of the senses EXCEPT:
 - A. Auditory
 - B. Gustatory
 - C. Olfactory
 - D. Optical
 - E. Tactile

2. Given the description of the building, its name is most probably intended by the author to be:
 - A. Humorous
 - B. Irrelevant
 - C. Redundant
 - D. Satirical
 - E. Creative

3. In the first three paragraphs, the description of Winston:
 - A. Contrasts with the glumness of the setting
 - B. Hints at his unhappiness with his society
 - C. Reveals him to be a model citizen in the society
 - D. Carries an undertone of authorial contempt for Winston
 - E. Reinforces the Spartan picture of the society

4. The reader can infer from the passage as a whole that the caption under the portrait is intended to be
- I. Cautionary and intimidating
 - II. Paternal and reassuring
 - III. Fraternal and inspiring
- A. I only
B. II only
C. III only
D. I and III only
E. II and III only
5. In the first sentence of the fifth paragraph (“Behind Winston’s back”), the attitude expressed toward the telescreen:
- A. Is reinforced by the rest of the paragraph
 - B. Is transition to discussion of the Ninth Three-Year Plan
 - C. Contrasts with the attitude toward the telescreen in the rest of the paragraph
 - D. Reveals the irrelevance of the television in this society that is purely political
 - E. Is the same as the attitude toward the Thought Police in the previous paragraph

Passage 2, Question 6-12

-Read the passage from *Section 1, Chapters II and III of 1984* which begins at “The sun had shifted round” and ends “hundreds of fathoms down and still sinking” (Pgs. 27-30). Carefully read the passage before you choose your answers.

6. The first paragraph contains all of the following literary devices EXCEPT:
- A. Similie
 - B. Metaphor
 - C. Synecdoche
 - D. Hyperbole
 - E. Parallelism
7. From the third paragraph (beginning “Curiously, the chiming”), a reader can infer that Winston defines “staying sane” as
- A. Staying alive in a world that guarantees death
 - B. Speaking out against the Thought Poilce
 - C. Quietly refusing to accept the precepts of his society
 - D. Blending into society while attempting to overthrow it
 - E. Dying to escape the total control of his society
8. Winston’s writing is most notable for its:
- A. Parallelism
 - B. Angry tone
 - C. Direct address
 - D. Periodic sentence structure
 - E. Simplistic diction

9. The sentence beginning “Now that he had recognized...” is an example of:
- A. Anaphora
 - B. Personification
 - C. Metaphor
 - D. Synecdoche
 - E. Paradox
10. Given the last sentence Winston wrote in his diary, his actions in the last paragraph of Chapter II could be interpreted as Winston:
- A. Acting in an illogical, paranoid fashion
 - B. Seeking a small forewarning of when his death will occur
 - C. Guaranteeing that his death will come sooner rather than later
 - D. Pathetic attempt to thwart the Thought Police
 - E. Clever method of postponing his inevitable death
11. Winston’s dream of his mother and sister could be interpreted as:
- I. His guilt from actions in his past
 - II. A premonition of his own death
 - III. A suppressed memory of their death at sea
- A. I only
 - B. II only
 - C. III only
 - D. I and II only
 - E. I, II, and III
12. Winston obviously defines tragedy as:
- A. The death of innocent people
 - B. A loss involving sacrifice and deep sorrow
 - C. Selfishly inflicting pain on those one loves
 - D. The loss of privacy in an individual’s life
 - E. Not returning the love of one’s parents

Passage 3, Question 13-18

-Read the passage from *Section 1, Chapter VIII of 1984* which begins at “He walked on” and ends “...great changes since you were a young man,” said Winston tentatively” (Pgs. 84-89). Carefully read the passage before you choose your answers.

13. Winston’s reaction to the bloody hand reveals that he:
- A. Has deep contempt for the proles
 - B. Is repulsed by the slaughter of the bomb
 - C. Feels totally detached from other people
 - D. Is irrationally upset by what he has seen
 - E. Is ashamed of the destruction caused by the war

14. From the people's reaction to the bomb, the reader can infer that they
- A. Are inured to bombing and treat it in a fatalistic manner
 - B. Have no real desire to live, so they accept the bombing without complaint
 - C. View avoiding bombs as a mere game to be played
 - D. Drink heavily to avoid thinking about the threat posed by the bombing
 - E. Fear the bombs but try to cover up their fear with bravado
15. In the dialogue beginning "Can't you bleeding well listen?" and ending "Oh, pack it in!" which of the following is evident?
- I. Authorial use of dialect to denote lower class people
 - II. The fact that the speakers are illiterate
 - III. A high level of emotional involvement as seen in the invective of the speakers
- A. I only
 - B. I and II only
 - C. I and III only
 - D. II and III only
 - E. I, II, and III
16. The Lottery is important to the people because it:
- A. Is their only chance of becoming truly rich
 - B. Provides hope and interest in an otherwise drab life
 - C. Inspires them to use their intellectual capabilities
 - D. Provides them with a living wage for little work
 - E. Is simple enough for them to understand
17. Given the preceding paragraphs, the sentence beginning "But if there was hope" serves to:
- A. contradict the negative images of the previous paragraphs
 - B. express the author's more positive view of the proles
 - C. explain why there is so little religious faith
 - D. emphasize how slim the hope for the society really is
 - E. show how reasonable Wilson is, given his surroundings
18. The long paragraph beginning "He paused for a moment" contains all of the following literary devices EXCEPT:
- A. alliteration
 - B. anaphora
 - C. allusion
 - D. simile
 - E. rhetorical question

Passage 4, Questions 24-30

-Read the passage from Section 2, Chapter V of *1984* which begins “Four, five, six – seven times” and ends “news is all lies anyway” (pgs. 150-154). Carefully read the passage before you choose your answers.

19. Given the first two sentences of the second paragraph, the change in Winston that is described in the first five sentences of the first paragraph (“Four, five, six” . . . at the top of his voice”) could best be described as:
- A. logical
 - B. irrational
 - C. understandable
 - D. ironic
 - E. satirical
20. The first paragraph employs all of the following literary devices EXCEPT:
- A. simile
 - B. metaphor
 - C. onomatopoeia
 - D. allusion
 - E. metonymy
21. The second paragraph employs all of the following literary devices EXCEPT:
- A. simile
 - B. metonymy
 - C. analogy
 - D. synecdoche
 - E. anaphora
22. In the second sentence of the third paragraph, the word “fabulous” could best be replaced by:
- A. awesome
 - B. marvelous
 - C. prodigious
 - D. fabled
 - E. grandiose
22. The reader can infer that Julia’s political beliefs are:
- A. totally shared by Winston because of his deep skepticism
 - B. very unusual for a Party member
 - C. a result of her job in the Inner Party
 - D. widely known because of her unorthodox public behavior
 - E. known by her superiors, but tolerated because of her beauty
23. Julia’s attitude toward the Party could best be described as:
- A. cynically self-serving
 - B. detached loathing
 - C. puritanically rejecting
 - D. fanatically disbelieving
 - E. blindly accepting

Passage 5, Questions 31-38

-Read the passage from Section 2, Chapters VI and VII of *1984* which begins “He knew that sooner or later” and ends “settled herself into a more comfortable position” (pgs. 159-164). Carefully read the passage before you choose your answers.

24. In the last paragraph of Chapter VI (beginning “He knew”), Winston’s attitude could best be described as one of
- A. certainty
 - B. pessimism
 - C. opportunism
 - D. fatalism
 - E. expectancy
25. In the third paragraph of Chapter VII, in the sentence beginning “the dream had also been,” the phrase “comprehended by” is best understood to mean
- A. understood by
 - B. knowledgeable of
 - C. comprised of
 - D. seen by
 - E. known to
26. In the paragraph beginning “In the dream he had remembered,” the “it” in the first sentence refers to
- A. “small events”
 - B. “the cluster”
 - C. “waking”
 - D. “few moments”
 - E. “last glimpse”
27. In the paragraph beginning “When his father disappeared,” “the never mentioned thing that was about to happen” most likely refers to
- A. the death of his father
 - B. news of the death of his father
 - C. Winston’s final betrayal of his mother
 - D. the death of his sister
 - E. the loss of their home
28. From the paragraph beginning “He remembered the room,” the reader can infer that the mother always gave Winston “more than his share” because she felt
- A. that was the only way to appease his anger and whining
 - B. he deserved it since males were superior in that society
 - C. he was the only one with a chance to survive, and needed more
 - D. she wanted to die anyway so that she could be with her husband
 - E. more love for him than for her daughter

29. From the passage as a whole, the reader can infer all of the following EXCEPT that
- A. Winston felt guilty about how he had behaved when he was a child
 - B. His mother blamed him for causing her death by starvation
 - C. Winston viewed his sister as almost less than human
 - D. Many people simply disappeared during Winston's childhood
 - E. When Winston was young, getting enough to eat was a primary focus
30. The primary purpose of the first sentence of the second paragraph is to:
- A. Emphasize the inhumane working conditions of the society
 - B. Document the depth of stamina that Winston has
 - C. Provide concrete details of Winston's life
 - D. Highlight the devotion of the Ministry's workers
 - E. Explain Winston's condition as described in the first paragraph
31. The long sentence in the third paragraph focuses primarily on which sense?
- A. Auditory
 - B. Gustatory
 - C. Tactile
 - D. Olfactory
 - E. Optical
32. In the fourth paragraph (beginning "There was, of course, no admission"), the sentence "The most savage yells of all came from the school children" serves to:
- I. Shock the reader
 - II. Belittle the effectiveness of the orator
 - III. Reveal the pervasiveness of the Party's control
- A. II only
 - B. I and II only
 - C. I and III only
 - D. II and III only
 - E. I, II, and III
33. From the response to the change of opponents in the war, the reader can infer that:
- A. No one dared to question government decisions
 - B. The orator was especially skillful in unusual situations
 - C. The crowd was unaware of the change
 - D. Such sudden changes were not especially rare
 - E. The people never cared for Eastasia
34. The predominant imagery of the fourth paragraph is that of:
- A. Animalistic rage
 - B. Machine-like efficiency
 - C. Detached intellectualism
 - D. Controlled energy
 - E. Insane humanity