

AP English Literature and Composition  
AP book report to prep for the Free Response Question 3

Reports should be typed in 12-point font. Include your name so that people can contact you with any questions about your work or about the text.

Include the following elements prominently in your report. Use these numbers and sections. This is no time to be subtle.

1. Title of work.
2. Author and date written (not the date of publication, if you have a current edition or translation).
3. Literary period or movement into which the work falls.
4. Nationality of author.
5. Point of view. Give the point of view in the conventional way (1st person, 3rd person omniscient) with any additional information to characterize it.
6. Characters. Label as major or minor with brief descriptions of each; include at least two adjectives for each and a brief commentary for each adjective.
7. Major settings, with a description of each and its effect on the reader. (If there are too many settings, select 1-3 representative settings.). Use specific details to create a clear image. Include a concise analysis of the effect of the setting on the reader.
8. Brief plot outline: Include only action. Write down only what the characters do, not what they think or feel. You may find it useful to divide the plot into the usual aspects of plot: exposition, rising action, climax, denouement.
9. Major themes of the work. Give words and phrases (e.g., Bildungsroman, appearances and reality) and some elaboration of each. Include also the knowable purpose of the work.
10. Symbols. For each, give at least two instances where each symbol appears and commentary on the significance of each.
11. Any other significant imagery, motifs, etc.
12. Author's techniques. Give examples that show the techniques. Techniques include stream-of-consciousness, synesthesia, psychological realism, etc.
13. Give the significance of the title. Be thoughtful here.