

AP English Literature and Composition

Portfolio, due 5/8 before class (10:15 am), 200 points

Components: Three revised essays (you don't need to turn in drafts)	150 points
Reflective memo	50 points

For this assignment, students are to revise three essays in preparation for the AP English Literature and Composition exam. Normally, we would choose from among our various kinds of essays, but here we will focus on the prose passage essay.

You may choose from among

- your essay of 4/24 (Silas Lapham)
- your essay of 4/17 (Peregrine Pickle),
- your *In Parenthesis* explication,
- your old sample test prose passage essay of 2/28,
- the in-class writing on “The Dead” of 1/13,
- your Hawthorne (*Zenobia*) passage of 12/12,
- your in-class *Anna Karenina* explication of 11/26 (which was rewritten for 12/10).

Essays will be graded afresh, using AP standards, though you have the advantage of working on them in an untimed way with comments from past versions. No matter what the assignment was in the beginning, what you write should look like an AP prose-passage essay. If you are beginning with an explication, for example, make sure topic sentences take the place of section divisions.

Because you have the luxury of working on the essays in an untimed way, they should be clean of usage errors and show your best writing—the writing itself should promote the ideas set forth.

As always, be sure that the thesis is seamlessly grammatical even as it is also sharply analytical and as exigent as possible. You must orient your reader at the beginning of the piece with regard to author and work, and you may use an introduction of any length—one or two sentences to a full paragraph, with the thesis in the thesis position.

Then, please make sure topic sentences are fully analytical and connecting the local ideas to the main argument. No matter what the assignment was originally, these revisions should quote and cite text in correct MLA style. All essays should treat the use of literary means to promote a given idea or purpose.

In addition to the revised essays, please include a reflective memo in which you talk about your overall method of revision and then go through essay by essay and describe the kinds of changes you have made in order to improve your responses.

In this memo, you should quote from your own work as well as from any student sample essays you have looked at as you have revised. Looking closely at successful student work can help you tune up your answers and makes for a very good review.

See the materials on the next page to help you.

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Here is the URL for student samples and scoring guidelines for Peregrine Pickle:

<https://secure-media.collegeboard.org/digitalServices/pdf/ap/ap17-english-literature-q2.pdf>

Here is the URL for student samples for Silas Lapham:

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/pdf/ap-english-literature-and-composition-2019-frq2-samples-2020-rubrics.pdf>

Here are the scoring guidelines for Silas Lapham:

<https://secure-media.collegeboard.org/ap/pdf/ap-english-literature-and-composition-2020-frq-scoring-guidelines-2019-exam-questions.pdf>

Here is the URL for student samples for Zenobia:

<https://secure-media.collegeboard.org/ap/pdf/ap-english-literature-and-composition-2018-frq2-samples-2020-rubrics.pdf>

Here are the scoring guidelines for Zenobia:

<https://secure-media.collegeboard.org/ap/pdf/ap-english-literature-and-composition-2020-frq-scoring-guidelines-2018-exam-questions.pdf>

You can find similar sample essays to the one you wrote for “The Dead” in *5 Steps to a 5*.

Please do your best work on these revisions; because of the proximity of the due date to the AP exam, you won’t get much feedback on the portfolio before you take the exam.