

AP English Language and Composition
Review for Final Exam (taken by students who opted not to take the AP Exam)

The exam for the course will consist of two sections.

The first section will be short answer, asking you to use principles from *They Say/I Say* as well as ideas from class to revise academic writing on texts from this year's AP Lang course. To study for section 1, spend time outlining main ideas from Graff and Birkenstein; going through assignment sheets and checklists, including Unlucky 13; and reviewing the rhetorical terms we have studied. Clearly, the better you know the texts we have studied, the stronger your understanding will be and the better you will be able to contextualize and refine the material of the writing samples.

The second section will be an argument essay with a prompt relevant to the course texts from the second half of the year: "Bartleby," Fascicle 13, *Winesburg, Ohio*, *In Our Time*, *As I Lay Dying*, and *Othello*.

To write this essay, you should have a good conversance with the texts and their main themes, as the prompt will be thematic. You will not be required to quote, of course, but you should be able to use characters, situations, and general ideas about style as evidence for your discussion.

Themes that cut across texts have had to do with appearances and reality, the importance of the natural world, the role of the outsider, the relationship of the individual and the community, revenge, and the adequacy of language.

The prompt will ask you to make an argument about what the writers do in the texts; thus, this prompt pulls from rhetorical analysis, synthesis, and argumentation skills. Be sure your thesis matches the prompt squarely and that your whole discussion takes an analytical approach.