

AP English Language and Composition

Teacher Expectations	
Recommended Preparation: English II with an “A” or “B”, or accelerated English II with an “A”, “B”, or possible “C”	
Average HW Time: 3-6 hours a week average	
After-school Labs and Study Sessions: not mandatory	
Activities: Group Projects X Individual Projects X Lab Reports Textbook/Novel Reading X Textbook Notes X Research X Primary and Secondary Source Analysis X Use of Technology X Google Classroom/Canvas X Essays X Short Answers X	Important information that students need to know about this course: AP Language is a College level writing course. Students are expected to read critically and absorb great quantities of material quickly. Because it is similar in format to a college course, students are expected to read independently. Students should also be willing to participate and question both in class and out of class, as that is the only way to learn the material.

Student Expectations and Learning Outcomes
Students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • think critically and analyze complex nonfiction texts • write thorough analysis essays in a timed setting • interpret nonfiction texts from various periods throughout history. • effectively analyze a text and answer test questions with complex answers under a time limit (60 minutes for 50-60 questions) • individually complete reading and homework assignments in a timely manner. • access technology either at school or at home to complete assignments • analyze an author’s purpose in writing, and explain how that purpose is achieved • synthesize multiple texts in constructing an argument • construct an argument in writing using prior knowledge

About AP Language and Composition

The AP English Language and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum, which requires students to develop evidence-based analytic and argumentative essays that proceed through several stages or drafts. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Throughout the course, students develop a personal style by making appropriate grammatical choices. Additionally, students read and analyze the rhetorical elements and their effects in non-fiction texts, including graphic images as forms of text. (from the College Board course description)

Format of the AP Language and Composition Test

The exam is approximately three hours and 15 minutes long and has two parts — multiple choice and free response. The multiple choice section is worth 45% and the free response section is worth 55% of the final exam grade.

Section I: Multiple Choice — 50-60 questions; 1 hour

The multiple choice section tests your ability to read closely and analyze the rhetoric of prose passages. There are usually 4-5 passages, and they are nonfiction.

Section II: Free Response — 3 free-response questions; 2 hours, 15 minutes, which includes a 15-minute reading period.

The free response prompts test your skill in composition and requires close reading, thoughtful rhetorical analysis, and purposeful argumentation. This section has three essays: a synthesis essay, a rhetorical analysis essay, and an argumentative essay, all of which are written in 2 hours.