

ENGLISH 3, LEVEL 4: AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION (W220334)

The AP English Language and Composition course is designed to give students multiple opportunities to work with the rhetorical situation, examining the authors' purposes as well as the audiences and the subjects in texts. Students write in a variety of modes for a variety of audiences, developing a sense of personal style and an ability to analyze and articulate how the resources of language operate in any given text. Because students live in a highly visual world, they also study the rhetoric of visual media. In concert with the College Board's AP English Course Description, the course teaches "students to read primary and secondary sources carefully, to synthesize material from these texts in their own compositions, and to cite sources using conventions recommended by professional organizations such as the Modern Language Association (MLA)." Students work within the framework of American literature to develop critical reading skills, which determine the sequence of reading instruction in this course. The yearlong Junior Theme research project requires independent reading and thus affords students the opportunity to read a range of source material thereby enhancing the American non-fiction experience. *This course prepares students for the AP® English Language and Composition exam.*

SUMMER READING:

PART 1: FICTION - Short stories + Reflection

- "Good Country People" by Flannery O'Connor
- "Puppy" by George Saunders
- "Peking Duck" by Ling Ma

PART 2: NON-FICTION - Choose 2 articles from Flipboard.

Required Text: Everything's an Argument (9th edition), Lunsford and Ruskiewicz

Independent Reading (for Junior Theme Project)

Core Texts: Opinion essays, short documentary films and extended journalistic pieces from current newspapers, journals and websites (a selection curated in *Flipboard* app)

Optional: Additional essays from The Best American Essays of the Century, (Atwan and Oates)

I. FIRST SEMESTER:

Q1: What are the characteristics of a good reader and good writer?

Q2: What is the impact of the past on the present and future of the United States?

Fiction (core): The Awakening, Chopin

Short stories: "My Kinsman, Major Molineaux," Hawthorne
"A Good Man is Hard to Find," O'Connor

Non-fiction (core): "Good Readers and Good Writers," Nabokov
"The Teaching of Literature," O'Connor
"The Nature of Proof in the Interpretation of Poetry," Perrine
(choose at least 4) "Education by Poetry," Frost
"The Figure a Poem Makes," Frost
"Settling the Colonel's Hash," McCarthy
"Writing Short Stories," O'Connor
Selected essays from AP Language Exams, 1980-Present

Drama (core: choose one) The Crucible, Miller
Doubt, Shanley

Poetry (core) Selected poems by Robert Frost and Emily Dickinson

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II. SECOND SEMESTER:

Independent Reading (for Junior Theme Project): additional articles and long-form journalism **plus** one non-fiction text on Junior Theme topic, approved by teachers.

Q3: What is the connection between non-fiction and fiction?

Q4: What makes great literature: Story or Structure?

Film: Doubt, Shanley (2008)

Non-Fiction (core): “Fate,” Emerson
Selections from The Souls of Black Folk, W.E.B. DuBois
Selected essays from AP Language Exams, 1980-Present

(choose one): Between the World and Me, Coates

- or -

“Recitatif,” Toni Morrison - **and** -
“The Genius of Toni Morrison’s Only Short Story,” Zadie Smith
(New Yorker 2022)

(optional): “The Fire Next Time,” Baldwin
Selections from The New Yorker, The New York Times, and other contemporary journals [Appendix C]

Fiction (choose one): Benito Cereno, Melville (Dover Thrift or eBook)
The Sound and the Fury, Faulkner
As I Lay Dying, Faulkner
Light in August, Faulkner
A Tidewater Morning, Styron
Beloved, Morrison
The Great Gatsby, Fitzgerald

Poetry: [Appendix A] - Selections from 19th, 20th century American poets

Optional: Citizen, Rankine

SELECTIONS:

A. Poetry:

Title	Author	Note
Poetry of Emily Dickinson	Dickinson	
Poetry of Robert Frost	Frost	

B. Short Stories:

Title	Author	Note
"Sonny's Blues"	Baldwin	
"The Devil and Irv Chernisky"	Boyle	
"The Yellow Wallpaper"	Gilman	
"Artist of the Beautiful"	Hawthorne	
"My Kinsman, Major Molineaux"	Hawthorne	
"The Devil and Tom Walker"	Irving	
"Artists in Uniform"	McCarthy	
"Bartleby the Scrivener"	Melville	
"Recitatif"	Morrison	
"Everything that Rises Must Converge"	O'Connor	
"A Good Man is Hard to Find"	O'Connor	
"Sonny's Blues"	Baldwin	
"The Devil and Irv Chernisky"	Boyle	
"The Yellow Wallpaper"	Gilman	
"Artist of the Beautiful"	Hawthorne	
"My Kinsman, Major Molineaux"	Hawthorne	
"The Devil and Tom Walker"	Irving	
"Artists in Uniform"	McCarthy	
"Bartleby the Scrivener"	Melville	
"Recitatif"	Morrison	
"Everything that Rises Must Converge"	O'Connor	
"A Good Man is Hard to Find"	O'Connor	

C. Essays:

Title	Author	Note
"On Grief and Reason"	Brodsky	
"Why I Write"	Didion	
"Tradition and the Individual Talent"	Eliot	
"Fate"	Emerson	
"Noble Prize Acceptance Speech"	Faulkner	
"In History"	Kincaid	
"Search for Marvin Gardens"	McPhee	
"Noble Prize Acceptance Speech"	Morrison	
"Unspeakable Things Unspoken"	Morrison	

Title	Author	Note
"Art of Literature and Common Sense"	Nabokov	
"Close Reading"	Prose	
"The Singular First Person"	Sanders	
"Against Interpretation"	Sontag	
"Introduction" to Best American Essays, 1992	Sontag	
"The Essayist"	White	

D. Film Clips:

Title	Director	Year	Studio	Rating
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