

Advanced Placement English Language and Composition Frequently Asked Questions

What is AP English Language?

The AP English Language and Composition course is designed to help you become a skilled reader of a variety of texts as well as becoming a skilled writer. You'll achieve this through awareness of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects, as well as the ways that writing rules and language use contribute to effective writing.

The AP English Language and Composition course is intended to give you the experience of an introductory-level composition course in college.

Why should I take AP English Language?

Students who understand and are willing to accept that academic classes will become increasingly rigorous through high school and college often take AP classes to prepare themselves for these challenges. AP classes are weighted more than other classes and they look great on college applications if you're willing to put in the necessary work. The AP Exam, taken at the end of the year, offers the opportunity to earn college credit (often worth thousands of dollars in tuition) while still in high school.

How much and what type of work will I be doing?

A 90-minute class typically includes notes and lecture about a specific topic for about 30 minutes. The remainder of the class is usually spent doing an activity such as class debate, group work, writing, or reading discussions.

You should expect to work one-to-two hours each night. Homework typically consists of a reading assignment and a written activity, such as a first-person journal entry or essay.

What are tests and quizzes like?

You'll have reading quizzes and tests at the end of each unit. The test typically includes multiple choice and essay questions. In mid-May, each student will take the AP Exam.

What is the AP Exam?

The AP Exam is the end-of-course test for AP Language and Composition. It is administered by the College Board. There are two parts on the AP Language exam: a 55-question multiple choice section and three free response questions. The test is approximately three hours and fifteen minutes long. The multiple choice counts for 45% of the final score and the free response questions count for 55% of the score. Scores range from 1 to 5 and students who get a 3, 4, or 5 stand a good chance of receiving college credit for their score.

Who can I talk to if I need more information?

It's likely that some of your friends and acquaintances have taken an AP class before, and talking with them might give you an idea of what's in store. The best way would probably be to speak with Dr. Giroux. You can e-mail him at justin.giroux@nn.k12.va.us. . You can also visit the College Board's AP English Language website here: <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/apcourse/ap-english-language-and-composition>.

Information on AP courses was provided by The College Board. See [AP Courses](#) for more information.