

Welcome to AP Literature and Composition!



Dear Students and Parents:

According to the College Board, “The AP English Literature and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level literary analysis course. The course engages students in the close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works.”

The AP Literature and Composition course is designed to prepare students to sit for the AP English Literature Exam. *It is the expectation of the instructors that a student who chooses to enroll in AP Literature will sit for the AP exam in May.*

The summer assignment is mandatory. It will be assignment #1 when the semester begins. Non-completion of the assignment may place your semester grade in jeopardy.

Assignment: Personal Dictionary

Success on both the multiple subject and essay sections of the AP English Literature and Composition Exam is highly correlated to your mastery of specific, academic language. For example, if you encounter a prompt that requires you to “**qualify** an argument,” and you are unaware that in this context you are being asked to identify exceptions to the argument, you are likely to write an off-task response.

To scaffold your mastery of the highly technical, academic vocabulary you are likely to encounter on the exam (and to become a more literate being), you will create a personal dictionary that will allow you to tailor your vocabulary instruction to meet your own needs. This will be an ongoing project that will be collected periodically throughout the school year. To get you started, we have included a list of terms.

During the school year, whenever you encounter any word with which you are unfamiliar, or are introduced to new rhetorical terms, you will complete a dictionary entry, using the same template listed below. You will want to choose specific literary terms that you are likely to encounter on the exam, not just random SAT-type vocabulary. Generally, these terms should be selected from the multiple choice quizzes/exams administered in class.

Remember, this dictionary will be most effective if you review these terms on a regular basis. You must include the source of your terms, and the source must correspond with the curriculum from the specific grading period during which the dictionary is collected. During the school year, the sources should reflect the breadth of sources covered during each grading period. The **summer assignment** will be the source of the terms for this initial assignment.

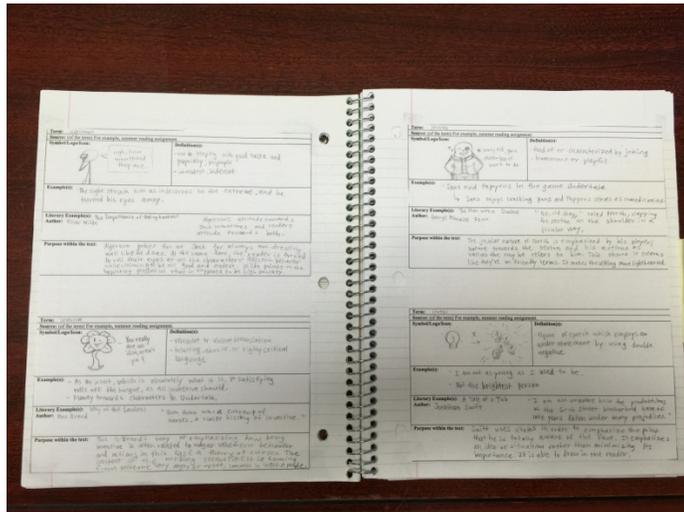
To complete this assignment, you will need an 8 1/2" x 11" spiral notebook. Flat, cheap ones work best. Don't use fat binders, or ones bound in plastic, they don't stack well. **You should have two entries per page.** A template for the assignment is included, as well as a sample photo of the assignment. You may use the front and back of each sheet of paper, if you prefer.

The format matters! This is a graphic organizer that is designed to help you study more efficiently. **Leaving out lines/dividers makes this technique less effective, so points will be deducted from your score for incomplete/poorly formatted entries. You must use the template provided, and neatness counts!**

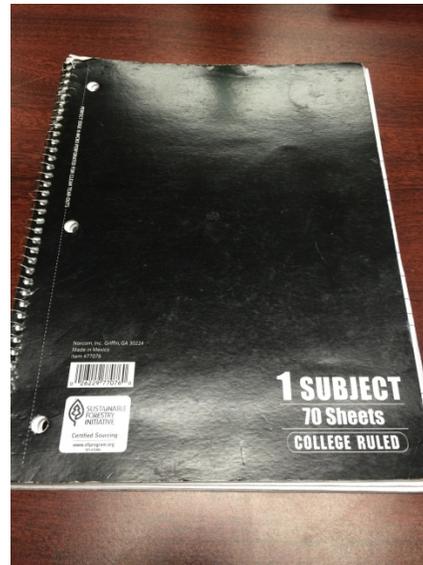
Examples:

Term: Metonymy	
Source: (of the term) For example, Summer Assignment, or <i>Frankenstein</i> Multiple Choice Test	
Symbol/Logo/Icon:	Definition(s):
	<p>A figure of speech that consists of the use of the name of one object or concept for that of another to which it is related, or of which it is a part, as “scepter” for “sovereignty,” or “the bottle” for “strong drink,” or “count heads (or noses)” for “count people.”</p>
Example(s):	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ He is a man of the cloth. ✓ The pen is mightier than the sword. 	
Literary Example(s): “Out, Out” As he swung toward them holding up the hand Half in appeal, but half as if to keep The life from spilling.	Author: Robert Frost
Purpose within the text:	
<p>The metonymy is a play on words. In the poem “Out, Out” by Robert Frost, the injured boy holds up his hand "as if to keep the life from spilling." By using this technique, Frost creates a sense of urgency and peril. The literal meaning of this line is to keep the blood from spilling, but it also tells us that the life of the boy is in mortal danger.</p>	

Inside:



Outside:



Term:	
Source: (of the term) For example, summer reading assignment.	
Symbol/Logo/Icon:	Definition(s):
Example(s):	
Literary Example(s): Author:	
Purpose within the text:	

Term:	
Source: (of the term) For example, summer reading assignment.	
Symbol/Logo/Icon:	Definition(s):
Example(s):	
Literary Example(s): Author:	
Purpose within the text:	

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|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Allegory | 11. Hyperbole | 21. Personification |
| 2. Alliteration | 12. Imagery | 22. Protagonist |
| 3. Allusion | 13. Irony | 23. Realism |
| 4. Aside | 14. Juxtaposition | 24. Rationalism |
| 5. Assonance | 15. Metaphor | 25. Rising Action |
| 6. Climax | 16. Modernism | 26. Romanticism |
| 7. Denouement | 17. Naturalism | 27. Satire |
| 8. Epilogue | 18. Oxymoron | 28. Simile |
| 9. Foil | 19. Paradox | 29. Symbol |
| 10. Foreshadowing | 20. Parody | 30. Synecdoche |

Recommended Reading: We recommend *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster. Reading this text prior to the beginning of the semester will help you better understand the readings once the semester begins. We will be referencing this book throughout the school year.

Your Summer Assignment will be due the first full week of class in August.

Feel free to contact either of us with any questions or concerns. We will be checking our WR email accounts often, but please be patient, responses may take a few days ☺

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