

# AP ENGLISH

## What is AP English at FHS?

Our AP English class is **AP English Language and Composition**. That means, generally speaking, that this is a writing class as much as a reading class. English 11 focuses on American Literature as it has progressed from pre-Columbian days to the present. A variety of genres are presented and supplemental materials are used regularly to assist students in grasping concepts of the course. (See the complete “AP English 11 Syllabus” for details.) AP students are required to do all regular English 11 coursework, and – in addition – some in- and out-of-class writings, readings, and activities. Some of the things the AP English class does in addition to regular English 11 work include:

- Practice prompts (for analysis and argument, often leading to out-of-class writings)
- In-Class Responses (timed responses to analysis, argumentation, or “synthesis” prompts)
- Practice Tests – generally in class

Check to make sure that your prospective college(s) accept AP credit! Also check the score you will need to receive to obtain credit. Go to the following website: <http://www.collegeboard.com/?student> Type your college into the “college quickfinder” and click on TESTS to find out what minimum score you will need. Scores range from 1-5 (i.e., 1= lowest; 5 = highest). Since this course was *new to juniors in 2011-12*, there is little “history” for how students have done. You are not required to take the test as part of the course, but you are required to prepare for it along with the class.

Prior AP students have suggested that you be told:

- ❖ Check the College Board website for requirements and score minimums.
- ❖ There is additional writing, more complex writing, and some extra reading.
- ❖ More difficult Vocabulary is implemented with the Sadlier-Oxford program (Level F).
- ❖ Discussions in class generally require more student participation and often do not have teacher-given answers; discussions in AP require students to have read the material independently.
- ❖ Although there is not that much additional assigned reading in AP English, reading extensively will certainly benefit you on AP English assignments and the test.

There will be summer reading assignments, and they will be given to you prior to the end of this school year. The AP test is given nationally at the same time on the same day in May and costs \$80+. The test materials must be ordered ahead of time, at your expense. If you sign up for the test but do not take it, you will be charged. The test contains four timed sections. The first section is a series of short readings followed by multiple choice questions and lasts one hour. The next three sections are short readings with an essay question, each lasting 40 minutes.

**This class will require additional time outside the classroom. Assuming you are serious about earning college credit, it will not be an unreasonable amount—but be prepared!**