



SCHOLAR COACH, INC.

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE · FREE RESOURCE

Free Resource Directory

Every verified free link gathered for AP English Literature and Composition, organized by category with a note on what each is good for. Start with the official College Board section, then add one teacher site and one practice hub. You do not need all of them.

A note on reliability. All links were gathered during research in October 2026. Websites move and some pages ask for a free account. Where a source blocks automated tools but loads in a normal browser, or where an item was not directly fetched, it is marked. Practice questions on some commercial sites are paid even when the blog is free; those are flagged.

Where to start (the short list)

IF YOU WANT...	GO TO
The official facts	College Board CED and exam page (Section 1)
Real past prompts, scoring guidelines, and student samples	College Board Past Exam Questions page (Section 1)
Every prompt since 1970 in one place	Ms. Effie's AP page (Section 2)
Plain-language templates and free guides	The Garden of English (Section 2)
Digital full-length practice	Bluebook (Section 1)
Free review videos	Advanced Placement YouTube channel and Marco Learning (Section 4)
Poems and novels to read for free	Poetry Foundation, Gutenberg, Standard Ebooks (Section 6)

1. Official College Board resources

RESOURCE	WHAT IT IS
AP Lit course page	Overview of the course
AP Lit exam page	Format, timing, and links to practice materials
Course and Exam Description (CED)	The full framework: units, skills, 19 sample MCQs with skill tags, 3 sample FRQs with rubrics

RESOURCE	WHAT IT IS
Scoring rubrics for FRQs 1–3	The official 6-point rubric
Past Exam Questions	FRQs (1999–2026), scoring guidelines, sample responses with commentary, Chief Reader Reports
2025 Chief Reader Report	What readers saw, question by question; the best free source on common errors
2024 Chief Reader Report	Same, for 2024
2021 Chief Reader Report	Older report
2024 FRQ Set 1	Question paper
2023 Scoring Guidelines Set 1	Row-by-row scoring with decision rules
2025 Q3 Set 1 samples	Student essays and commentary
2026 FRQ	Current-year question paper
2012 public practice exam	Full released exam with MCQ (five answer choices, the older format)
1987 released exam	MCQ only; no poetry essay; five choices
AP Daily video index	List of AP Daily videos for AP Lit
Student site	Student-facing overview of the course and exam
Student assessment page	Format and scoring overview for students
Bluebook home	Download the digital testing app
Bluebook practice	Digital full-length practice in the real app (four-option MCQ)
AP Classroom	Teacher-assigned progress checks, question bank, AP Daily videos (requires a teacher-created class)
Advanced Placement YouTube channel	Public AP Daily videos and live review sessions

How to use AP Classroom and AP Daily

What AP Classroom is. AP Classroom is College Board’s online platform. Your teacher creates a class and gives you a join code. It is free once you have a code. You cannot sign up on your own without a class, but the AP Daily videos are public on YouTube (see below).

What it contains for AP Lit:

1. **Progress Checks.** One per unit (Units 1–9), each with roughly 30 multiple-choice questions and one free-response question. They are tagged by skill. Teachers assign them as practice; you receive results by skill category.
2. **Question Bank.** A filterable bank of released-style multiple-choice and free-response questions. Teachers can filter by unit, skill, and question type. The bank also holds the retired secure practice exams for 2019,

2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023, which makes it one of the best sources of full-length, real-format practice. Those older exams use five answer choices.

3. **AP Daily videos.** Short, skill-by-skill lessons for every unit, taught by AP teachers. They are meant as review, not first instruction.
4. **Faculty Lectures.** Deeper sessions on topics such as contemporary sonnets (Unit 5) and transcultural reading (Unit 4).
5. **Personal Progress Checks (in some classes).** The results show which skills need work.

A good routine with AP Classroom:

STEP	WHAT TO DO
1	Do the unit Progress Check <i>after</i> you finish the unit in class, not before
2	Look at your results by skill, not just the total
3	Match your lowest skills to a Skills Guide in folder 03 and a drill in folder 10
4	Watch the AP Daily video for that skill before retrying similar questions
5	Log misses in the error log in <i>Score Calculator and Goal-Setting Worksheet</i>
6	In spring, use the Question Bank to build timed 10–12 question passage sets

How to use AP Daily videos (public on YouTube):

- Search for the channel “Advanced Placement” and the playlist for English Literature and Composition. The AP Daily Live Review playlists are especially useful in April and May.
- Watch actively: pause the video, answer the sample question yourself, then compare your answer to the one the teacher gives.
- Use the index PDF above to find the video that matches a specific skill (for example, 4.D, narrator reliability).
- Do not watch passively for hours. One focused 10–15 minute video plus 10 practice questions beats an afternoon of videos.

If you do not have AP Classroom access: ask your teacher or AP coordinator to add you to a class. Otherwise, rely on the CED sample questions, the past FRQ archive, Bluebook practice, and the public AP Daily videos.

2. Teacher sites and archives

RESOURCE	WHAT IT OFFERS
Ms. Effie (mseffie) AP Lit page	The canonical archive: every AP Lit open, poetry, and prose prompt from 1970–2026; AP Lang prompts; referenced titles; Q3 sample essay index; links to 30+ other teacher sites
Ms. Effie: referenced titles	Ranked list of works cited on open prompts, with counts
Ms. Effie: open prompts	All open (Q3) prompts
Ms. Effie: poetry prompts, grouped	PDF of poetry prompts with poems
Ms. Effie: prose prompts, grouped	PDF of prose prompts with passages
Ms. Effie: stable prompts	Prompts rewritten in the current stable wording
Ms. Effie: acronyms	Handout of TPCASTT, DIDLS, SOAPSTone, and other acronyms
Ms. Effie: downloads	Free handouts: essay plan pages, thesis practice and tests, peer critique sheet, Taboo List of weak words, revision symbols, reading journals, Literature Circle Jobs, Body Biography
Ms. Effie: OPTIC	One-page OPTIC visual-analysis handout
The Garden of English (Timm Freitas)	Free templates, guides, syllabi, and videos; “almost everything free”
Garden of English: files and resources	Free Google Drive files: AP Lit Templates for All Questions with Examples; Commentary guide; Introductions and Conclusions guide; Thematic Argument and Purpose Statement guides; “Who to Write About”; specialty prompts; analysis verb lists (an email may be required)
Garden of English YouTube	Videos on topic sentences, Q2 first steps, units; joint reviews with Coach Hall
Much Ado About Teaching (Susan Barber and Brian Sztabnik)	Articles on sophistication, poetry units, writing, and discussion
Much Ado: sophistication	The clearest free explanation of the sophistication point and complexity frames
Lit & More (Gina Kortuem)	AP Lit blog, resource library, annotation guides, “Essay Autopsy,” AP Daily companion resources
Lit & More: annotation guides	Downloadable annotation guides (general, advanced highlighting, identify-to-function)
Dawn Hogue’s AP Lit site	Vocabulary list, AP rubric, “Writing About Literature,” reading pages for many canonical works

RESOURCE	WHAT IT OFFERS
Quixotic Pedagogue	Archive of AP materials (not fetched directly)
Barber and Sztabnik downloads	Some free downloads (Gumroad)
Susan Barber on Edutopia	Articles on AP Lit instruction
UGA APSI agenda (Susan Barber)	Summer institute agenda for AP Lit
Georgia DOE webinar (Boyd)	Coaching students on the multiple-choice section
Denton ISD poetry prompts	List of poetry essay questions
Norton Learning blog	MCQ strategies and six classroom games
Perfection Learning: sophistication webinar	Slides from October 2025
Perfection Learning: Chief Reader discussion	Discussion with the 2024 Chief Reader
Perfection Learning: 2022 scoring bump	Explanation of the 2022 score change
Perfection Learning: line of reasoning	Freitas "AP Lang Top 5" webinar concept (useful for Lit too)
UWorld teacher resources roundup	PDF roundup of free AP Lit teacher resources

3. District handouts and frameworks

RESOURCE	WHAT IT OFFERS
TPCASTT (Greenville County)	Poetry analysis handout
TP-CASTT (Louisiana DOE)	State version of the poetry method (not fetched directly)
TPCASTT (Huff English)	Explanation of the method
DIDLS	Strategy for analyzing tone
OPTIC	Visual analysis overview and infographic
SOAPSTone (K20 Center)	Strategy card
SPACECAT (K20 Center)	Strategy card
SPACECAT worksheet	Description and worksheet
Say-Mean-Matter	Activity description
TLQ quote integration	Handout on embedding quotations
Embedding quotations (Jane Schaffer)	Avoiding the "kerplunk effect"
Analysis verbs (Carnegie Mellon)	Verbs grouped by function
They Say / I Say templates (Illinois)	Templates and transition bank
They Say / I Say (Tusculum)	Printable sheet (not fetched directly)

RESOURCE	WHAT IT OFFERS
Toulmin model (SJSU)	Handout with practice
Jackson Township full guide	Rhetorical-analysis guide with frameworks and annotated samples (AP Lang oriented, widely adapted)

4. Practice hubs and review sites

RESOURCE	WHAT IT OFFERS
Fiveable AP Lit	75 study guides, 229 key terms, cheatsheets, FRQ practice (free tier; some practice gated)
Fiveable AP Lit key terms	Glossary
Fiveable FRQ 1 guide	Three-read poetry protocol and pacing
Marco Learning study guides	Free AP Lit study guides (an account may be required)
Marco Learning 6-week plan (AP Lit)	Spring review calendar
Marco Learning practice tests	Free full-length practice tests (free account)
Marco Learning YouTube	Review videos for both courses
Albert one-month AP Lit plan	Free plan (blog free; practice questions paid)
Albert AP Lit guide	Format and skill weights
PrepScholar: MCQ guide	Question types and strategy
PrepScholar: practice tests	Roundup of practice-test sources
PrepScholar: exam overview	Format and scoring
PrepScholar: reading list	Reading list by period, top 25, easiest reads, poets
Cognito: score chart	Reconstructed score bands
Cognito: literary argument essay	Q3 guide
Cognito: best books	Q3 book list by theme and selection criteria
College Transitions: score calculator	Calculator and composite explanation
Total Registration: score distributions	Score percentages by year
Barron's: four-choice update	Notes on the 2025 format change
Princeton Review AP Lit book list	Poems, novels, novellas, and plays list
UWorld units and topics	Unit and key-concept summary
CrackAP AP Lit	Free MCQ quizzes (older format; blocks bots, loads in a browser)

RESOURCE	WHAT IT OFFERS
Lumiere education roundup	Overview of best free AP resources
Khan Academy grammar	No AP Lit course exists; the grammar course is useful for sentence-level writing

5. Video

CHANNEL OR PLAYLIST	WHAT YOU GET
Advanced Placement (College Board)	AP Daily videos and live reviews
Garden of English	Teacher videos: topic sentences, Q2, units
Marco Learning	Review videos for AP Lit
Ms. Peer Editor	Essay tutorials and text breakdowns by a 5/5 scorer
Tolentino Teaching	Short videos on literary terms and vocabulary
Oregon State "Guide to Literary Terms"	60+ short term videos (linked from Ms. Effie; not fetched directly)

Tips for using video: watch one video on one skill, then immediately practice that skill on a text. Passive watching does not raise scores. Pair the Garden of English topic-sentence videos with the Writing Toolkit in folder 06.

6. Free texts, poetry, and literature

Full texts and audio

RESOURCE	WHAT IT OFFERS
Project Gutenberg	79,000+ public-domain ebooks, nearly every pre-1929 title on the Q3 lists
Standard Ebooks	Carefully formatted public-domain ebooks (Austen, Brontës, Dickens, Hardy, Conrad, Joyce, Chopin, Wharton, Fitzgerald)
LibriVox	Free public-domain audiobooks; useful for dense nineteenth-century prose
Folger Shakespeare	Free full texts of all the plays
Owl Eyes	1,000+ annotated public-domain texts (free reading; classroom features paid)

RESOURCE	WHAT IT OFFERS
CommonLit	Free leveled text library with questions and paired texts (free account)
Library of Congress classroom materials	Primary-source sets

Poetry

RESOURCE	WHAT IT OFFERS
Poetry Foundation	Poem archive
Poetry Foundation glossary	Glossary of poetic terms
"How to Read a Poem" (Hirsch)	Primer on reading poems
Poets.org	Poem-a-Day, poet biographies, teaching materials
NEH EDSITEment	"Twenty-One Poems for AP Literature"
Purdue OWL: writing about poetry	How to write about poetry

Study guides and term references

RESOURCE	WHAT IT OFFERS
LitCharts literary devices	136 devices with examples
SparkNotes	Study guides, No Fear Shakespeare, term guides
Shmoop	Ad-supported study guides and device explainers
Literary Devices (literarydevices.net)	Alphabetical device encyclopedia
Vocabulary.com AP Lit list	AP Lit terms list
Handbook of Rhetorical Devices	60 devices (blocks bots; loads in a browser)
Purdue OWL: Toulmin argument	Argument model
EdWeek: most-taught titles	NCTE 2025 list of most-taught classics

Caution on summaries

SparkNotes, Shmoop, and LitCharts can help you recover plot and spot motifs, but the exam rewards your own close reading. Use them to check understanding after you read, not instead of reading.

7. AP Lang resources that also help Lit students

These are written for AP Language but transfer well to Lit essays.

RESOURCE	WHY IT HELPS
Coach Hall Writes	Thesis, commentary, and exam-day videos; free Q3 Database
Coach Hall blog	Digital exam tips and writing posts
Coach Hall YouTube	Thesis and commentary videos
Marco Learning AP Lang study pack	Timing plans, MCQ wrong-answer types, commentary check
Marco Learning AP Lang 6-week plan	A spring calendar worth adapting
Fiveable AP Lang	Study guides and key terms
Cognito AP Lang MCQ strategy	Six MCQ question types and elimination rules
PrepScholar AP Lang terms	55 terms with definitions
Tone and diction word list (BBS)	About 75 tone words with definitions and 32 diction words
Clayton rhetorical terms	80-term glossary in five tests
American Rhetoric	5,000+ speeches with text and audio

8. Suggested combinations

The minimum kit (about 3 hours of setup, then use all year)

1. College Board CED (skills and sample questions)
2. College Board Past Exam Questions page (prompts, rubrics, samples, Chief Reader Reports)
3. Ms. Effie's AP page (all prompts)
4. Bluebook practice
5. Poetry Foundation or Poets.org for a poem a day
6. Project Gutenberg or Standard Ebooks for your Q3 works

For a student who struggles with poetry

Poems daily from Poets.org; Hirsch's "How to Read a Poem"; the TPCASTT handout; Fiveable's FRQ 1 guide; Garden of English poetry videos; the 2024 and 2025 Chief Reader Reports for Q1.

For a student who struggles with time

The Marco Learning 6-week plan; Bluebook practice under timed conditions; the Boyd webinar for multiple-choice pacing.

For a student who struggles to get past a 3 on essays

The Chief Reader Reports; Much Ado About Teaching on sophistication; the Garden of English templates; scored sample responses from the College Board PDFs; Ms. Peer Editor's walkthroughs.

For Q3

Ms. Effie's referenced titles page; Cognito's best-books article; the Garden of English "Who to Write About" file; Gutenberg or Standard Ebooks for the works themselves; LibriVox for audio.

For teachers

AP Classroom (progress checks and Question Bank); Ms. Effie's archive; Lit & More; Much Ado About Teaching; UWorld's teacher roundup PDF; the Norton Learning blog's MCQ games.

9. A final caution about free resources

1. **Check the date.** Anything written before 2025 may show five-choice multiple choice and, before 2019, the 9-point rubric. The current exam has four choices, the 6-point rubric, and a Bluebook-delivered format.
2. **Prefer primary sources for facts.** For format, scoring, and skills, the CED and the Past Exam Questions page beat any summary.
3. **Do not hoard.** Choose a small set, use it consistently, and track results in the Score Calculator and Goal-Setting Worksheet.
4. **Respect copyright.** Many poems and passages from recent exams are copyrighted. Read them through College Board and Poetry Foundation; do not repost them.

Want a plan built around **your** student?

BOOK NOW →