

**AP English Literature and Composition
Fall 2008 final exam review sheet**

Vocabulary from tone groups 1-14 (multiple-choice questions and writing tasks)

abhorrent	callous	deluded	fatuous
acerbic	capricious	derisive	fawning
acrimonious	caustic	despondent	fervent
acquiescing	chagrined	deterministic	funereal
altruistic	choleric	didactic	futile
angst-ridden	circumspect	disdainful	hackneyed
apathetic	coddled	disquieted	halcyon
ardent	complacent	dynamic	haughty
audacious	confrontation	embittered	idiosyncratic
austere	consternation	empathic	idolatrous
averse	cowering	enamored	imperious
benign	credulous	enervated	inane
bristle	deferent	exasperated	indolent
buoyant	defiant	exultant	indomitable

Literary Concepts (multiple-choice questions about poetry and definitions/examples)

alliteration	dramatic monologue	persona	shift
allusion	ethos	personification	simile
aside	euphony	octave	soliloquy
assonance	foil	onomatopoeia	sonnet
ballad	free verse	oxymoron	stanza
blank verse	hyperbole	pastoral	symbol
character	imagery	pathos	synecdoche
comedy	irony	quatrain	syntax
conceit	logos	rhyme	theme
conflict	metaphor	rhythm	tone
consonance	metonymy	satire	tragedy
couplet	mood	sestet	understatement
diction	motif	setting	

Potential Essay Topics

- In a literary work, a minor character, often known as a foil, possesses traits that emphasize, by contrast or comparison, the distinctive characteristics and qualities of the main character. For example, the ideas or behavior of the minor character might be used to highlight the weaknesses or strengths of the main character. Choose a novel or play in which a minor character serves as a foil to a main character. Then write an essay in which you analyze how the relation between the minor character and the major character illuminates the meaning of the work.
- One of the strongest human drives seems to be a desire for power. Write an essay in which you discuss how a character in a novel or a drama struggles to free himself or herself from the power of others or seeks to gain power over others. Be sure to demonstrate in your essay how the author uses this power struggle to enhance the meaning of the work.
- A critic has said that one important measure of a superior work of literature is its ability to produce in the reader a healthy confusion of pleasure and disquietude. Select a literary work that produces this "healthy confusion." Write an essay in which you explain the sources of the "pleasure and disquietude" experienced by the readers of the work.
- An effective literary work does not merely stop or cease; it concludes. In the view of some critics, a work that does not provide the pleasure of significant closure has terminated with an artistic fault. A satisfactory ending is not, however, always conclusive in every sense; significant closure may require the reader to abide with or adjust to ambiguity and uncertainty. In an essay, discuss the ending of a novel or play of acknowledged literary merit. Explain precisely how and why the ending appropriately or inappropriately concludes the work. Do not merely summarize the plot.