

## What to Cover by May in AP Lit:

1. Be knowledgeable in a minimum of 9 areas (which may overlap):  
1 novel, 1 play, 1 pre-1900 work, 1 post-1900 work, 1 comedy, 1 tragedy, 2 poets (one old, one new), and 2 essayists (one old, one new).
2. Write any of these kinds of compositions: response to literature/literary analysis on novels and plays; compare/contrast essays; style analysis for both prose and poetry.
3. Do any from Q3 as “process” multi-paragraph essays and as timed writings.
4. Write a well-focused thesis sentence that identifies the subject to be discussed and clarifies the direction of the essay; if it’s an AP prompt, it does not repeat from the prompt.
5. Show mastery of concrete detail (examples, quotes, support, plot references, evidence) and commentary (analysis and interpretation), sentence variety, parallel structure, figurative language, integrating/embedding/incorporating quotations smoothly into their own sentences, varying subject openers, and noteworthy vocabulary.
6. Write mature and insightful commentary to complement their concrete detail.
7. Analyze any element of style analysis, whether or not the devices are given in the prompt.
8. Read and understand prose and poetry from the old guys, including, but not limited to, the Metaphysicals and the Romantics.
9. Answer multiple-choice questions efficiently and quickly from AP sample, using the “eliminate and narrow” approach.
10. Have a working knowledge of the literature terms we have studied, not just the “fling and sling” approach to using terminology in an essay.
11. Show grasp of major trends and periods in literature from the Greeks to the present.
12. Analyze any poem given to them, showing their understanding of the poetic form and the specific devices that make it different from prose.
13. Know tone and attitude.

Jane Schaffer

San Diego