

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION

Nuts & Bolts of the Exam

LENGTH OF EXAM

3 hours and 15 minutes

EXAM FORMAT

Section 1 - Multiple Choice

- 45% of Exam Score
- Questions presented in 5 sets (A passage followed by questions)
- 23–25 Reading questions (analyze nonfiction texts)
- 20–22 Writing questions (revise texts)
- 1 hour

Section 2 - Free Response Questions (FRQs)

- 55% of Exam Score
- 3 essays
- 2 hours to write all 3 essays
- 15 min reading period to read through prompts (you may begin writing during this time)

FREE RESPONSE QUESTIONS

You will write three essays based on prompts in the following categories:

- Synthesis
 - Students given an argument prompt followed by 6-7 texts
 - Compose an argument that combines and cites at least three of the sources to support their thesis
 - Limited use of first person allowed
- Rhetorical Analysis
 - Students read a nonfiction passage and analyze how the writer's language choices / rhetorical devices contribute to the meaning and purpose of the text
 - Third person only
- Argument
 - Students create an evidence-based argument that responds to a given topic
 - Essay should include claim, support, counterargument, and rebuttal