

**12 AP English Literary Analysis Papers:** Below is a list of the most referenced works associated with the AP Literature Exam. Choose three of these works and after reading, respond to the three open ended questions below. In other words, choose a work to respond to a question. The papers should be in MLA format, double spaced, and provide specifics from the piece that support the analysis as posed by the question. No first and second person or contractions should be used.

*Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison  
*Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte  
*Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens  
*Crime and Punishment* by Fyodor Dostoevski  
*Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad  
*Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte  
*Moby Dick* by Herman Melville  
*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain  
*King Lear* by William Shakespeare  
*Catch-22* by Joseph Heller  
*Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* by James Joyce  
*The Awakening* by Kate Chopin  
*Billy Budd* by Herman Melville  
*Ceremony* by Leslie Marmon Silko  
*Light in August* by William Faulkner  
*The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne  
*Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zorah Neale Hurston  
*As I Lay Dying* by William Faulkner  
*Native Son* by Richard Wright

*The Glass Menagerie* by Tennessee Williams  
*Macbeth* by William Shakespeare  
*A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry  
*Song of Solomon* by Toni Morrison  
*A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams  
*Anna Karenina* by Leo Tolstoy  
*Bless Me, Ultima* by Rudolfo Anaya  
*Candide* by Voltaire  
*Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller  
*The Jungle* by Upton Sinclair  
*A Passage to India* by E. M. Forster  
*Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* by Tom Stoppard  
*Sula* by Toni Morrison  
*Waiting for Godot* by Samuel Beckett  
*All the Pretty Horses* by Cormac McCarthy  
*Cry, The Beloved Country* by Alan Paton  
*Jude the Obscure* by Thomas Hardy  
*Lord Jim* by Joseph Conrad  
*Madame Bovary* by Gustave Flaubert

**QUESTION #1:** 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.

**QUESTION #2:** Critic Roland Barthes has said, "Literature is the question minus the answer." Choose a novel, or play, and, considering Barthes' observation, write an essay in which you analyze a central question the work raises and the extent to which it offers answers. Explain how the author's treatment of this question affects your understanding of the work as a whole. Avoid mere plot summary.

**QUESTION #3:** Morally ambiguous characters -- characters whose behavior discourages readers from identifying them as purely evil or purely good -- are at the heart of many works of literature. Choose a novel or play in which a morally ambiguous character plays a pivotal role. Then write an essay in which you explain how the character can be viewed as morally ambiguous and why his or her moral ambiguity is significant to the work as a whole. Avoid mere plot summary.