AP English Language and Composition: Updates for 2019-20

- To bring you and your students new classroom resources and supports, we're making updates to AP® English Language and Composition for the 2019-20 school year.

- These updates will give you a clearer sense of the content and skills that will be tested on the AP Exam. They'll also ensure that the exam format remains consistent from year to year.

- You won't need to update your syllabus in the AP Course Audit. You'll simply need to acknowledge the updates on your AP Course Audit form.

- Starting in August, you'll need to complete a simple digital activation process to access the new resources and help your students register for their exams.

Course Updates

AP English Language and Composition has been updated for the 2019-20 school year to make things clearer for you and your students, define or limit scope, and better align with college-level expectations.

Course and exam information is now clearly presented in a course and exam description (CED).

- Currently, a course description booklet—a very general overview of course content, with a topic outline—is available to help you plan your instruction.

- Starting in late May 2019, you'll have access to a **course and exam description (CED)** that clearly outlines all required course content and defines how that content will be assessed on the exam.

The CED organizes the course into nine commonly taught units.

- The CED organizes AP English Language and Composition into nine units centered around rhetorical analysis, argumentation, and synthesis.

- This represents a sequence that is found in widely adopted college textbooks and that many AP English Language and Composition teachers have told us they follow.

- By organizing the course content and skills into units, we're able to give you and your students free formative assessments—personal progress checks—that you can assign throughout the year to measure student progress.

- We want to respect your time and expertise by providing a road map you can modify and adapt to your local priorities and preferences. You can choose to follow this suggestion for how content can be sequenced and paced. As always, you'll have the flexibility to organize the course content as you like.

The CED defines specific skills for students.

- The course framework outlines distinct skills that AP English Language and Composition students should practice throughout the year. For example, students will establish a position on a subject and develop a claim, and explain how a line of reasoning relates to a claim.

- Specific skills are matched to specific course content in the form of essential knowledge statements.

- With this kind of specificity, you and your students will know **how** that content will be assessed on the AP Exam.

Some content has been removed to make the course more manageable for you and your students.

- AP English Language and Composition teachers have told us that there is too much content to teach thoroughly and thoughtfully in a single school year.

- In collaboration with AP teachers, college professors, and members of the AP English Language and Composition Development Committee, we've removed content that was deemed beyond the scope of the course.

- Currently, the course description requires students to evaluate sources. Although students will still examine sources and select source material, the CED doesn't ask them to evaluate sources starting in the 2019-20 school year.

Exam Updates

Starting in the 2019-20 school year:

- The three free-response questions will use new analytic rubrics, which will be consistent for each of the three question types. This change will give you more specific feedback on your Instructional Planning Reports (IPRs) about your students' performance.

- The exam will include multiple-choice questions that assess composition, in addition to ones that assess textual analysis.

- A few types of multiple-choice questions (e.g., vocabulary in context and identification) will no longer appear on the exam.

- There will be a consistent range of difficulty in the reading passages across all versions of the exam from year to year.

- The updated exam will strike a better balance between reading and composition.

Exam Updates

Currently (2019 Exam)	Starting with the 2020 Exam
SECTION I: MULTIPLE CHOICE	**SECTION I: MULTIPLE CHOICE**
52–55 Questions | 1 Hour | 45% of Exam Score	**45 Questions** | 1 Hour | 45% of Exam Score
- Questions focus exclusively on rhetorical analysis and are presented in four sets built around lengthy stimulus passages. - The distribution of different question types varies.	Questions will be presented in **five** sets, with **shorter** stimulus passages. **23–25** rhetorical analysis questions. **20–22 composition questions: a new type of question** where students will be asked to "read like a writer" and consider revisions to stimulus texts.
SECTION II: FREE RESPONSE	**SECTION II: FREE RESPONSE**
3 Free-Response Questions | 2 Hours, 15 Minutes (includes a 15-minute reading period) | 55% of Exam Score	3 Free-Response Questions | 2 Hours, 15 Minutes (includes a 15-minute reading period) | 55% of Exam Score
1 synthesis question 1 rhetorical analysis question 1 argument question The free-response questions are scored using holistic rubrics.	1 synthesis question 1 rhetorical analysis question 1 argument question The free-response questions will now be scored using **analytic** rubrics.

You'll find complete details about the updated AP English Language and Composition course and exam in the CED, available on AP Central® in late May 2019.

Print copies of the CED will be available in easy-to-use, customizable binders in June 2019. Preorder your free copy at **collegeboard.org/CED**.

Visit **collegeboard.org/APEnglishLang2019** for the most up-to-date information, including:

- A video overview of the AP English Language and Composition updates;

- More information about the new resources;

- A detailed timeline of what you can expect and when; and

- A video preview of the CED and unit guides.

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