

# AP Language & Composition

Enduring Understandings, Skills, and Essential Knowledge

# Enduring Understanding #1

**RHS-1:** Individuals write within a particular **situation** and make strategic choices based on that situation.

# Enduring Understanding #2

**CLE-1:** Writers make **claims** about subjects, rely on **evidence** that supports the reasoning that justifies the claim, and often acknowledge or respond to other, possibly opposing, arguments.

# Enduring Understanding #3

**REO-1:** Writers guide understanding of a text's line of **reasoning** and claims through that text's **organization** and integration of evidence.

# Enduring Understanding #4

**STL-1:** The rhetorical situation informs the strategic **stylistic choices** that writers make.

# Unit 1: The Unending Conversation

- Rhetorical Situation
  - The Elements: Exigence, Purpose, Audience, Writer, Context, and Message
- Claims and Evidence
  - Defensible and Interesting Claims
  - Types of Evidence
  - Quoting, Paraphrasing, Summarizing

## Unit 2: Selecting Evidence to Motivate and Audience

- Relating to an Audience
  - Audience's Beliefs, Values, and Needs
  - Modes of Persuasion
    - Ethos
    - Pathos
    - Logos
- Strategic and Sufficient Evidence
- Identifying a Thesis

# Unit 3: Connecting an Argument

- Connecting and Explaining Claims and Evidence
  - Using Commentary Effectively
  - Integrating and Acknowledging Source Material
- Line of Reasoning
  - Paragraph Sequencing
  - Flaws in Reason
- Methods of Development
  - Narration
  - Cause and Effect



# Unit 4: Structuring and Organizing Arguments

- Introductions and Conclusions
- Thesis and Structure
  - Thesis Statement
  - Line of Reasoning
- Methods of Development
  - Comparison and Contrast
  - Description
  - Definition

# Unit 5: Structuring and Supporting Coherent Arguments

- Constructing Cohesive Arguments
  - Functions of Body Paragraphs
- Maintaining Coherence and Managing Transitions
  - Levels of Coherence
  - Repeated Words and Patterns that Strengthen Coherence
  - Transitions
- The Many Meanings of Words
  - Connotation and Denotation
  - Word Choice and Perspective

## **Unit 6: Synthesizing Perspectives and Refining Arguments**

- Evaluating and Synthesizing Reliable, Credible Source Material
- Position versus Perspective
- Recognizing and Acknowledging Bias in Source Material
- Considering and Accounting for New Evidence
- Strategic Use of Tone

# Unit 7: Style as Substance

- Framing an Argument
  - Beginning with the End in Mind
  - Ending at the Beginning: A Unified End
- Qualifying Claims
  - Complexity and Absolute Terms
  - Using Modifiers to Qualify Claims
- Sentences
  - Subordination and Coordination
- Clarity through Conventions
  - Punctuation

# Unit 8: Using Style Strategically

- Considering Audience through Strategic Choices
  - Effective Comparisons in Context
    - Similes and Metaphors
    - Analogies
    - Anecdotes
  - Diction and Syntax in Crafting Arguments
- Writer's Style and Perspective
  - Complex and Ironic Perspectives
- Modifiers and Parenthetical Elements

## Unit 9: Contributing to the Conversation

- Engaging with Others
  - Modifying and Qualifying Claims
  - Using Perspectives that Support, Complement, or Contradict
- Admitting or Challenging Limitations
  - Building Credibility by Addressing Opposing or Alternate Views
  - Concessions and Rebuttals
- Transitions to Counterarguments