

## 2010 AP<sup>®</sup> ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

### Question 3

(Suggested time—40 minutes. This question counts as one-third of the total essay section score.)

Palestinian American literary theorist and cultural critic Edward Said has written that “Exile is strangely compelling to think about but terrible to experience. It is the unhealable rift forced between a human being and a native place, between the self and its true home: its essential sadness can never be surmounted.” Yet Said has also said that exile can become “a potent, even enriching” experience.

Select a novel, play, or epic in which a character experiences such a rift and becomes cut off from “home,” whether that home is the character’s birthplace, family, homeland, or other special place. Then write an essay in which you analyze how the character’s experience with exile is both alienating and enriching, and how this experience illuminates the meaning of the work as a whole. You may choose a work from the list below or one of comparable literary merit. Do not merely summarize the plot.

*The American*  
*Angle of Repose*  
*Another Country*  
*As You Like It*  
*Brave New World*  
*Crime and Punishment*  
*Doctor Zhivago*  
*Heart of Darkness*  
*Invisible Man*  
*Jane Eyre*  
*Jasmine*  
*Jude the Obscure*  
*King Lear*  
*The Little Foxes*  
*Madame Bovary*  
*The Mayor of Casterbridge*  
*My Ántonia*

*Obasan*  
*The Odyssey*  
*One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*  
*The Other*  
*Paradise Lost*  
*The Poisonwood Bible*  
*A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*  
*The Road*  
*Robinson Crusoe*  
*Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*  
*Sister Carrie*  
*Sister of My Heart*  
*Snow Falling on Cedars*  
*The Tempest*  
*Things Fall Apart*  
*The Women of Brewster Place*  
*Wuthering Heights*

**STOP**

**END OF EXAM**