2002 AP® 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.)

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.

Choose a work from the list below or another novel or play of comparable literary merit.

The Age of Innocence All the King's Men Anna Karenina

The Autobiography of An Ex-Colored Man

The Awakening Billy Budd

Crime and Punishment

Faust Fences

The Glass Menagerie Great Expectations The Great Gatsby Heart of Darkness Hedda Gabler Henry V

The Mayor of Casterbridge The Merchant of Venice Mrs. Warren's Profession

Père Goriot

The Picture of Dorian Gray

The Plague Poccho

The Scarlet Letter Silas Marner Sister Carrie

Sula

The Turn of the Screw Typical American

END OF EXAMINATION