

# Big Ideas and Enduring Understandings

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The big ideas serve as the foundation of the AP English Language and Composition course and enable students to create meaningful connections among course concepts. They are threads that run throughout the course, and revisiting them and applying them in a variety of contexts helps students to develop deeper conceptual understanding. Below are the big ideas of the course, along with the enduring understanding associated with each one:

**RHETORICAL SITUATION (RHS)**

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

**CLAIMS AND EVIDENCE (CLE)**

**Enduring Understanding 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.

**REASONING AND ORGANIZATION (REO)**

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

**STYLE (STL)**

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