

# **2017 international practice exam mcq ap lit**

## **The Ultimate Guide to Mastering the 2017 AP Literature International Practice Exam MCQs**

Preparing for the AP Literature and Composition exam can feel daunting, especially when navigating the multiple-choice questions (MCQs). This comprehensive guide delves deep into the 2017 international practice exam MCQs for AP Lit, offering an in-depth analysis to help students achieve their best scores. We will dissect the common question types, explore effective strategies for tackling challenging passages, and provide insights into the analytical skills tested. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or seeking to refine your approach, this resource is designed to equip you with the knowledge and confidence needed to excel. Understanding the nuances of the 2017 AP Lit international practice exam MCQs is a crucial step toward exam success.

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### **Introduction to the 2017 AP Literature International Practice Exam MCQs**

The journey to mastering the AP Literature and Composition exam is paved with diligent preparation and strategic practice. Central to this preparation is a thorough understanding of the multiple-choice section, which often assesses a student's ability to engage with complex literary texts. This article serves as a comprehensive resource, focusing specifically on the 2017 international practice exam

MCQs for AP Lit. We aim to demystify the question types, illuminate effective test-taking strategies, and highlight the critical literary elements commonly evaluated within these passages. By dissecting the content and approach of the 2017 AP Lit international practice exam MCQs, students can gain invaluable insights into the expectations of the College Board and build the analytical prowess necessary for success. This guide is designed to be your go-to manual for navigating the intricacies of the 2017 international practice exam's multiple-choice components, ensuring you are well-equipped to tackle any literary challenge that comes your way.

## Understanding the AP Literature Multiple-Choice Section

The AP Literature and Composition exam's multiple-choice section is a critical component, designed to gauge a student's ability to comprehend, analyze, and interpret various literary works. Typically, this section presents several passages, each followed by a set of questions. These passages can range from poetry and prose to drama, offering a diverse range of literary styles and periods. The questions themselves are designed to assess a broad spectrum of skills, including understanding tone, identifying literary devices, analyzing characterization, discerning thematic development, and evaluating narrative structure. Familiarizing yourself with the format and expectations is the first step toward effective preparation for the 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit.

## The Structure of the AP Literature MCQs

The multiple-choice section of the AP Literature exam is standardized in its structure. Students are presented with a set number of passages, each accompanied by a corresponding group of questions. The number of passages and questions can vary slightly from year to year, but the core principle remains the same: assess your ability to engage critically with literary texts. The 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit will likely follow a similar pattern, providing a curated selection of excerpts that require careful reading and thoughtful analysis. Understanding this structure helps in pacing oneself and allocating sufficient time to each passage and its associated questions.

## Skills Assessed by the MCQs

The College Board aims to assess a wide array of critical reading and analytical skills through the AP Literature MCQs. These skills are not simply about recalling plot details; rather, they delve into the deeper layers of a literary work. Key skills include:

- **Comprehension:** Understanding the literal meaning of the text.
- **Analysis of Literary Devices:** Identifying and explaining the function of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and other literary techniques.
- **Interpretation of Theme:** Deducing the underlying messages or ideas conveyed by the

author.

- **Character Analysis:** Understanding character motivations, development, and relationships.
- **Structural Analysis:** Examining how the arrangement of elements contributes to the overall meaning and effect.
- **Tone and Mood:** Identifying the author's attitude towards the subject and the atmosphere created for the reader.

The 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit will undoubtedly test these skills across various genres and time periods, requiring a multifaceted approach to preparation.

## Strategies for Approaching the 2017 AP Lit MCQs

Effective strategies are paramount to success on the AP Literature MCQs, especially when working with challenging passages. The 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit demands a systematic approach to ensure all aspects of the questions are addressed accurately and efficiently. Without a clear plan, it's easy to get lost in the details of a passage or fall prey to tempting but incorrect answer choices.

### Active Reading Techniques

Before even looking at the questions, engage in active reading of the passage. This involves more than just passively scanning the words. It means actively processing the information, making connections, and forming initial interpretations. When tackling the 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit, try these active reading techniques:

- **Read the passage through once without stopping** to get a general sense of its content and overall mood.
- **Reread the passage, this time more slowly and deliberately.** Underline or highlight key phrases, identify unfamiliar vocabulary, and make marginal notes about recurring ideas or significant literary devices.
- **Pay close attention to the title and any introductory notes** provided with the passage, as these often offer valuable context.
- **Consider the speaker or narrator:** Who is telling the story? What is their perspective, and how might it influence the narrative?

These habits will prime you to better understand the nuances presented in the 2017 AP Lit international practice exam MCQs.

## Strategic Question Answering

Once you've read the passage, approach the questions strategically. Don't just jump to the first question; consider how to best allocate your time and mental energy. For the 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit, consider the following:

- **Read the question carefully** before looking at the answer choices. Understand what the question is asking before you try to answer it.
- **Eliminate clearly incorrect answers** first. This significantly increases your chances of selecting the correct option. Look for choices that are factually inaccurate, misinterpret the text, or are too broad or too narrow.
- **Go back to the passage to find evidence** for your chosen answer. The correct answer should always be supported by the text.
- **Be wary of absolutes** (e.g., "always," "never," "all") and extreme language in answer choices, as these are often incorrect.
- **If you're stuck between two answers**, reread the relevant section of the passage and consider which answer is the most precise and best supported by the evidence.

Applying these strategies diligently to the 2017 AP Lit international practice exam MCQs will refine your test-taking skills.

## Time Management

Effective time management is crucial for completing the multiple-choice section within the allotted time. The 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit requires a balance between thoroughness and speed. Develop a pacing strategy that works for you. A common approach is to allocate a specific amount of time per passage and its questions. If you find yourself spending too long on a single question or passage, make an educated guess and move on, returning to it later if time permits. It's better to answer all questions, even with a guess, than to leave some blank.

## Analyzing Key Literary Elements Tested in the 2017 Practice Exam

The 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit will probe your understanding of fundamental literary elements. Mastery of these concepts is essential for interpreting complex texts and selecting accurate answers. Each passage is a carefully constructed piece, and the questions will target specific aspects of that construction.

## Figurative Language and Literary Devices

Figurative language and literary devices are the tools authors use to create meaning, evoke emotion, and enhance the reader's experience. The 2017 AP Lit international practice exam MCQs will likely feature questions that require you to identify and analyze devices such as:

- **Metaphor and Simile:** Comparing two unlike things to create deeper understanding or imagery.
- **Personification:** Giving human qualities to inanimate objects or abstract ideas.
- **Imagery:** Language that appeals to the senses (sight, sound, smell, taste, touch).
- **Symbolism:** Using objects, people, or ideas to represent something else.
- **Allusion:** Referring to a well-known work of literature, history, or mythology.
- **Irony:** A contrast between expectation and reality.

Understanding how these devices function within a specific context is key to answering questions about the 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit correctly.

## Tone, Mood, and Diction

The author's tone (attitude toward the subject) and the mood (atmosphere created for the reader) are crucial elements of literary interpretation. These are often conveyed through diction (word choice) and syntax (sentence structure). Questions related to tone and mood on the 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit will require you to consider the emotional and intellectual impact of the language used.

Pay close attention to:

- **Specific word choices:** Are they formal or informal, positive or negative, literal or figurative?
- **Sentence length and complexity:** Short, choppy sentences can create a sense of urgency, while long, complex sentences might convey a more formal or reflective tone.

- **The overall emotional resonance** of the passage.

Analyzing these aspects will help you decipher the author's intent and the emotional landscape of the text, skills vital for the 2017 AP Lit international practice exam MCQs.

## Characterization and Narrative Voice

Understanding how characters are developed and the perspective from which the story is told are fundamental to literary analysis. The 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit will likely present questions that require you to analyze:

- **Direct vs. Indirect Characterization:** Does the author explicitly tell us about the character, or do we infer traits from their actions, speech, and thoughts?
- **Character Motivation:** What drives the characters' actions and decisions?
- **Narrative Point of View:** Is it first-person, third-person limited, or third-person omniscient? How does this perspective shape our understanding of events and characters?

Grasping these concepts will enable you to make informed judgments about the characters and the narrative voice in the 2017 AP Lit international practice exam MCQs.

## Theme and Meaning

Ultimately, AP Literature MCQs are designed to assess your ability to understand the deeper meanings and themes within a text. The 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit will challenge you to synthesize various elements of the passage to arrive at an interpretation of the author's message. This involves looking beyond the surface plot to consider the universal ideas or questions the work explores. Developing this analytical capacity is a cornerstone of AP Lit preparation.

## Common Pitfalls and How to Avoid Them in the 2017 MCQs

Even the most prepared students can fall into common traps on the AP Literature MCQs. Being aware of these pitfalls is the first step to avoiding them when tackling the 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit. Understanding the nature of these errors will allow you to approach the exam with greater caution and precision.

## **Misinterpreting the Question**

One of the most common mistakes is misreading or misinterpreting what a question is asking. A single word can change the entire focus of a question. For example, a question might ask for the primary purpose of a passage, and an answer choice might describe a secondary purpose. When engaging with the 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit, always read the question multiple times. Break it down into its core components: what is being asked about? Is it about a specific device, character, theme, or the passage as a whole?

## **Falling for Plausible but Incorrect Answers**

The creators of the AP exam are adept at crafting answer choices that are plausible but ultimately incorrect. These distractors often sound reasonable or might even be true statements about the passage in isolation, but they don't directly answer the question asked. To avoid this when working with the 2017 AP Lit international practice exam MCQs, always go back to the text to find direct evidence that supports your chosen answer. Don't rely on your memory or general impressions of the passage; evidence is key.

## **Overthinking Simple Concepts**

Sometimes, the simplest interpretation is the correct one. Students can sometimes overcomplicate questions, especially if the passage is dense or challenging. They might search for a hidden meaning that isn't there. When reviewing the 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit, remember that while analytical depth is important, the questions are designed to be answerable based on a close reading of the provided text. Stick to what the passage explicitly states or strongly implies.

## **Neglecting the Passage Context**

It's tempting to answer questions based on your general knowledge of a literary period or author. However, the AP exam requires you to interpret the specific passage provided, not your pre-existing knowledge of the work it's drawn from. The 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit will focus on the excerpt itself. Ensure that your answers are grounded in the text presented, not in broader literary associations you might make.

## **Ignoring Time Constraints**

As mentioned earlier, time management is critical. A common pitfall is spending too much time on one difficult question, which then leaves insufficient time for easier questions later. For the 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit, practice answering questions under timed conditions to develop a sense of pacing. If a question proves exceptionally difficult, mark it and return to it if time allows. Making an educated guess is often a better strategy than leaving a question blank.

# Practice Passage Breakdown: 2017 International Exam

To truly grasp the demands of the 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit, it's beneficial to break down a hypothetical passage and the types of questions that might accompany it. While we cannot reproduce the exact passages from the actual exam, we can simulate the process of analyzing a typical AP Literature MCQ set.

## Hypothetical Passage Analysis

Imagine a passage from a 19th-century novel describing a character's internal struggle during a significant social event. The passage might feature detailed descriptions of the setting, the character's thoughts and feelings, and subtle interactions with other characters. The prose could be elaborate, employing complex sentence structures and rich figurative language.

## Analyzing Typical Questions

Questions for such a passage would likely target:

- **The character's emotional state:** Questions might ask about the dominant emotion the character experiences or how their feelings evolve throughout the passage.
- **The significance of the setting:** How does the social event or environment contribute to the character's internal conflict or the passage's overall meaning?
- **The author's use of diction and imagery:** Questions might focus on specific word choices that reveal the character's attitude or create a particular mood. For instance, a question might ask: "The phrase 'a veil of apprehension' (line 15) most strongly suggests:"
- **The narrative perspective:** Is the narrator an objective observer, or do we have access to the character's inner world? How does this influence our understanding?
- **The passage's central theme:** What underlying idea about society, human nature, or relationships is being explored?

When approaching the 2017 AP Lit international practice exam MCQs, treat each passage as a unique puzzle to be solved through careful reading and logical deduction.

## Connecting Passage Elements to Answer Choices

For each question, you would then go back to the passage. If a question asks about the character's



motivation, find the sentences that reveal their reasons for acting or thinking a certain way. If it asks about a specific literary device, locate its instance in the text and analyze its effect. The 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit rewards those who can meticulously connect their answers to textual evidence. This process of annotation and evidence-gathering is crucial for validating your choices.

## **Developing a Robust Study Plan for AP Literature MCQs**

A structured study plan is essential for tackling the 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit effectively and building the foundational skills needed for overall success. Sporadic studying is rarely as effective as a consistent and targeted approach.

### **Utilize Official Practice Materials**

The most reliable way to prepare is by using official College Board materials. This includes past AP exams and practice questions released by the College Board. The 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit is a prime example of a valuable resource. Work through these materials systematically, treating them as if they were the actual exam.

### **Targeted Practice by Skill Area**

Identify your weaknesses. If you consistently struggle with questions about figurative language, dedicate extra time to reviewing those concepts and practicing questions that specifically target them. The 2017 AP Lit international practice exam MCQs can help diagnose these areas. For instance, if you find yourself frequently missing tone questions, focus on passages that are rich in subtle emotional cues and practice identifying the author's attitude.

### **Timed Practice Sessions**

Simulate exam conditions by completing practice sections under timed constraints. This helps build stamina and improves your ability to make quick, accurate decisions. Practicing with the 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit in a timed setting will prepare you for the pressure of the actual exam day.

### **Review and Self-Correction**

After completing practice questions, meticulously review your answers, especially the ones you got wrong. Understand why you made a mistake. Was it a misinterpretation of the question, a

misunderstanding of a literary term, or a failure to find sufficient textual evidence? This self-correction process is critical for learning and improvement when preparing for the 2017 AP Lit international practice exam MCQs.

## **Expand Reading Repertoire**

To excel on the AP Literature exam, it's crucial to read widely and consistently. Expose yourself to various genres, authors, and literary periods. The more you read, the more familiar you will become with different styles, voices, and literary conventions, which will naturally enhance your performance on questions like those found in the 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit.

## **Conclusion: Conquering the 2017 AP Literature MCQs**

Mastering the 2017 international practice exam MCQs AP Lit is a achievable goal with focused preparation and strategic execution. By understanding the structure of the multiple-choice section, employing active reading and strategic answering techniques, and diligently analyzing key literary elements, students can significantly improve their performance. Recognizing common pitfalls and developing a robust, targeted study plan will further enhance your readiness. The 2017 AP Lit international practice exam MCQs serve as an invaluable tool for honing these skills, providing a realistic preview of the challenges and expectations of the AP Literature and Composition exam. With consistent effort and a commitment to understanding the nuances of literary analysis, you can approach the multiple-choice section with confidence and achieve your academic aspirations.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What is a common misconception students have about the 2017 AP Literature FRQ prompts?**

A common misconception is that the prompts require a single, definitive interpretation or that there's only one 'right' way to approach them. In reality, the AP Lit exam values in-depth analysis and strong textual evidence, regardless of the specific thesis.

### **How did the 2017 AP Literature exam's multiple-choice questions differ from previous years, if at all?**

While specific year-to-year comparisons can be nuanced, AP exams generally aim to evolve. The 2017 exam, like others, likely focused on assessing students' ability to analyze literary elements, authorial choices, and the effect of those choices on the meaning and impact of a text, often with an emphasis on complex vocabulary and nuanced understanding of literary terms.

## **What types of literary devices were heavily featured in the 2017 AP Lit multiple-choice section?**

The 2017 MCQs likely tested a range of literary devices, including figurative language (metaphor, simile, personification), imagery, symbolism, tone, diction, syntax, and narrative point of view. Understanding how these devices contribute to the overall meaning and effect was crucial.

## **Are there specific literary periods or genres that tend to be more prominent in AP Lit practice exams like the 2017 international version?**

AP Literature generally draws from a broad spectrum of literary works. While certain periods like Romanticism, Modernism, and Post-Modernism, and genres like novels, poetry, and drama are common, practice exams aim for variety. The 2017 exam would have included selections from various eras and styles to ensure comprehensive assessment.

## **How can students best prepare for the analytical rigor of the 2017 AP Lit MCQs?**

Students can best prepare by engaging in active reading, annotating texts to identify literary devices and authorial choices, practicing with a variety of literary works from different periods, and working through timed practice sets of multiple-choice questions to build stamina and test-taking strategies.

## **What skills are essential for answering the 2017 AP Lit FRQs effectively?**

Effective FRQ answering relies on strong analytical skills, the ability to develop a clear and arguable thesis, the skillful selection and interpretation of textual evidence, and the capacity to articulate how that evidence supports the thesis. Organization and clear, concise writing are also paramount.

## **What advice would be most relevant for students approaching the 2017 AP Lit exam who found the international practice exam challenging?**

The advice would be to focus on understanding why certain answers were correct or incorrect in the practice exam. This involves reviewing the texts, identifying the specific skills being tested by each question, and seeking feedback on their own analytical approaches. Don't just memorize answers; understand the reasoning.

## **How does the College Board typically structure the 2017 AP Lit multiple-choice passages?**

The College Board typically selects passages that are rich in literary merit and offer ample opportunities for analysis of various elements. These passages are often from novels, essays, or poems, and are usually self-contained enough to be understood without extensive prior knowledge of the work.

# What is the role of 'authorial intent' in answering questions on the 2017 AP Literature exam?

While understanding the author's choices is key, the focus on 'authorial intent' in AP Literature is generally on analyzing what the author does in the text and how it affects the reader, rather than definitively stating the author's specific, often unknowable, intentions. The impact and effect of literary choices on meaning are prioritized.

## Additional Resources

Here are 9 book titles related to the skills and content often found in AP Literature and Composition exams, particularly those that might appear on a 2017 international practice exam (though specific exam content is proprietary, these cover general AP Lit concepts):

### 1. How to Read Literature Like a Professor by Thomas C. Foster

This foundational text provides readers with the essential tools for understanding literature on a deeper level. Foster breaks down common literary elements, symbols, and patterns, making complex concepts accessible and engaging. It's an excellent resource for developing analytical skills crucial for AP Literature essays and multiple-choice questions, helping you to identify and interpret the author's choices.

### 2. The Bedford Glossary of Critical and Literary Terms by M.H. Abrams and Geoffrey Galt Harpham

A comprehensive and authoritative reference for literary terminology, this glossary is invaluable for understanding the nuances of literary analysis. It defines a vast array of critical concepts, rhetorical devices, and literary movements. Familiarity with these terms is essential for accurately answering multiple-choice questions on literary techniques and for constructing precise arguments in essays.

### 3. 5 Steps to a 5: AP Literature and Composition (various authors, often published annually)

This popular series is designed specifically to prepare students for the AP Literature exam. It typically offers concise reviews of key literary concepts, practice multiple-choice questions with detailed explanations, and strategies for essay writing. Each edition is updated to reflect current exam formats and content, making it a highly relevant study guide.

### 4. The Norton Introduction to Literature (various editors, often published annually)

As a widely used college-level anthology and textbook, this book offers a broad spectrum of literary works from various eras and genres. It usually includes critical essays and introductions to authors and periods, providing context for analysis. Reading a diverse range of texts and studying accompanying critical commentary strengthens your ability to engage with unfamiliar works, a common challenge on AP exams.

### 5. Literary Theory: An Introduction by Terry Eagleton

While often considered more advanced, understanding the principles of various literary theories can significantly enhance your analytical capabilities. Eagleton's introduction offers a clear and accessible overview of major critical approaches like Marxism, feminism, and post-structuralism. Applying these theoretical lenses can help you unpack the complex themes and power dynamics present in literary works, often explored in AP Lit.

### 6. The Elements of Style by William Strunk Jr. and E.B. White

This classic guide focuses on principles of clear and concise writing, which is paramount for success

in AP Literature essay writing. It provides essential advice on grammar, usage, and composition, helping students to articulate their ideas effectively. Mastering the advice within this book will improve the clarity and impact of your analytical responses on the exam.

#### 7. Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

This novel is a frequent subject in AP Literature courses and exams due to its rich exploration of social commentary, character development, and intricate plotting. Austen's subtle irony, masterful use of dialogue, and exploration of themes like class, marriage, and individual judgment offer ample material for analysis. Understanding such a canonical work is crucial for recognizing patterns and applying literary concepts.

#### 8. Hamlet by William Shakespeare

As one of Shakespeare's most iconic tragedies, Hamlet is a cornerstone of AP Literature. Its complex characters, philosophical depth, and masterful use of language provide extensive opportunities for close reading and analysis. Familiarity with the play's themes of revenge, madness, mortality, and political intrigue is essential for tackling questions and essays on the exam.

#### 9. The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald

This quintessential American novel is often featured on AP Literature exams for its exploration of the American Dream, social class, wealth, and disillusionment. Fitzgerald's vivid prose, symbolic imagery, and complex narrative structure offer rich ground for analysis of themes and character motivation. Understanding the historical context and literary techniques employed in The Great Gatsby is highly beneficial for exam preparation.

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