2018 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.)

Many works of literature feature characters who have been given a literal or figurative gift. The gift may be an object, or it may be a quality such as uncommon beauty, significant social position, great mental or imaginative faculties, or extraordinary physical powers. Yet this gift is often also a burden or a handicap. Select a character from a novel, epic, or play who has been given a gift that is both an advantage and a problem. Then write a well-developed essay analyzing the complex nature of the gift and how the gift contributes to the meaning of the work as a whole.

You may choose a work from the list below or another work of comparable literary merit. Do not merely summarize the plot.

The Aeneid
Alias Grace
All the Light We Cannot See
Beloved
Beowulf
Crime and Punishment
Death in Venice
Dracula
Frankenstein
The Goldfinch
Great Expectations
Heart of Darkness
Homegoing
The Iliad
Kindred
King Lear
Madame Bovary
Mama Day
Man and Superman
The Metamorphosis
Midnight's Children
A Passage to India
The Picture of Dorian Gray
The Portrait of a Lady
The Power of One
A Raisin in the Sun
The Return of the Native
The Tempest
Things Fall Apart
To the Lighthouse

STOP

END OF EXAM

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