



AP English Literature: Skill-Based Instruction to Deepen Student Engagement

Carlos A. Escobar



Teaching AP English Literature and Composition

Teaching AP English Literature and Composition Then vs. Now

Support Mechanisms

APSIIs

AP Classroom

AP Workshops

AP Live

AP Central

AP Daily Videos

AP Mentoring

AP Daily: Practice Sessions

Demystifying the Course

CED

Big Ideas

Character

Setting

Structure

Narration

Figurative Language

Literary Argumentation

CED

Big Ideas

Character

Setting

Structure

Narration

Figurative Language

Literary Argumentation

Structure




Trevor Packer
@AP_Trevor



AP English Lit scores are very high – but if asked how to move them even higher: the skill area with lowest average scores on the AP English Lit exam is skill category #3, analysis of the structural choices made by an author.

9:56 AM · Jun 20, 2023 · **165.6K** Views

Structure

| Big Ideas | Unit 1 | Unit 2 | Unit 3 | Unit 4 | Unit 5 | Unit 6 | Unit 7 | Unit 8 | Unit 9 |
|---|------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
|  | <i>Short Fiction I</i> | <i>Poetry I</i> | <i>Longer Fiction or Drama I</i> | <i>Short Fiction II</i> | <i>Poetry II</i> | <i>Longer Fiction or Drama II</i> | <i>Short Fiction III</i> | <i>Poetry III</i> | <i>Longer Fiction or Drama III</i> |
| Character CHR | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Setting SET | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | | |
| Structure STR | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Narration NAR | ✓ | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Figurative Language FIG | | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Literary Argumentation LAN | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

Structure: Enduring Understanding

The arrangement of the parts and sections of a text, the relationship of the parts to each other, and the sequence in which the text reveals information are all structural choices made by a writer that contribute to the reader's interpretation of a text.

Structure: Skills

| | | |
|-----------------|--|------------------|
| STR 3 | 3.A Identify and describe how plot orders events in a narrative. | Units 1, 4, 6, 7 |
| STR 3 | 3.B Explain the function of a particular sequence of events in a plot. | Units 1, 6, 7 |
| STR 3 | 3.C Explain the function of structure in a text. | Units 2, 5, 8 |
| STR 3 | 3.D Explain the function of contrasts within a text. | Units 2, 4, 6, 8 |
| STR 3 | 3.E Explain the function of a significant event or related set of significant events in a plot. | Units 3, 9 |
| STR 3 | 3.F Explain the function of conflict in a text. | Units 3, 9 |

AP Literature Then

Guesswork, Luck, & Teacher Determination

AP Literature Now

CED + Resources + Teacher = Guided Instruction

Big Idea

AP Classroom

Creativity

Enduring
Understanding

AP Daily Videos

Determination

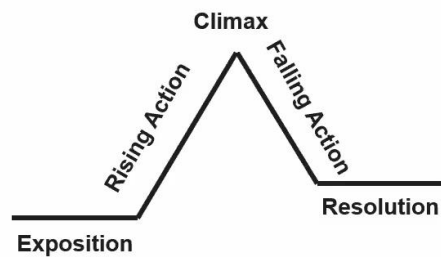
Skills

Knowledge of
Learners

Structure: Laying the Foundation

Unit 1: Skill 3.1 Daily Video 1

Plot



Presumes a linear structure

Nonlinear

In media
res

Flashback

Framed
Narrative

Epistolary

Structure

Structure



Structure: Poems

Line

Shifts

Stanza

Enjambment

Rhyme

Caesura

Structure: Poems

Line

Shifts

Stanza

Enjambment

Rhyme

Caesura

Unit 2: Skill 3.C
Daily Video 1



Unit 8: Skill 3.C
Daily Video 2

Practice: Poetic Structure

Practice: Poetic Structure

“Easter Wings”

“A Story”

“To a Daughter
Leaving Home”

Practice: Poetic Structure

“Blackberry Eating” by Galway Kinnell

I love to go out in late September
among fat, overripe, icy, black blackberries
to eat blackberries for breakfast,
the stalks very prickly, a penalty
they earn for knowing the black art
of blackberry-making; and as I stand among them
lifting the stalks to my mouth, the ripest berries
fall almost unbidden to my tongue,
as words sometimes do, certain peculiar words
like *strengths* or *squinched*,
many-lettered, one-syllabled lumps,
which I squeeze, squinch open, and splurge well
in the silent, startled, icy, black language
of blackberry-eating in late September.

Structure: Plays

Acts

Characters' Entrances/Exits

Scenes

Dramatic Progress

Practice: Dramatic Structure

Practice: Dramatic Structure

Arthur Miller's Death of a Salesman

Samuel Beckett's Waiting for Godot

????????????????????

Practice: Dramatic Structure

Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll's House*: Structure

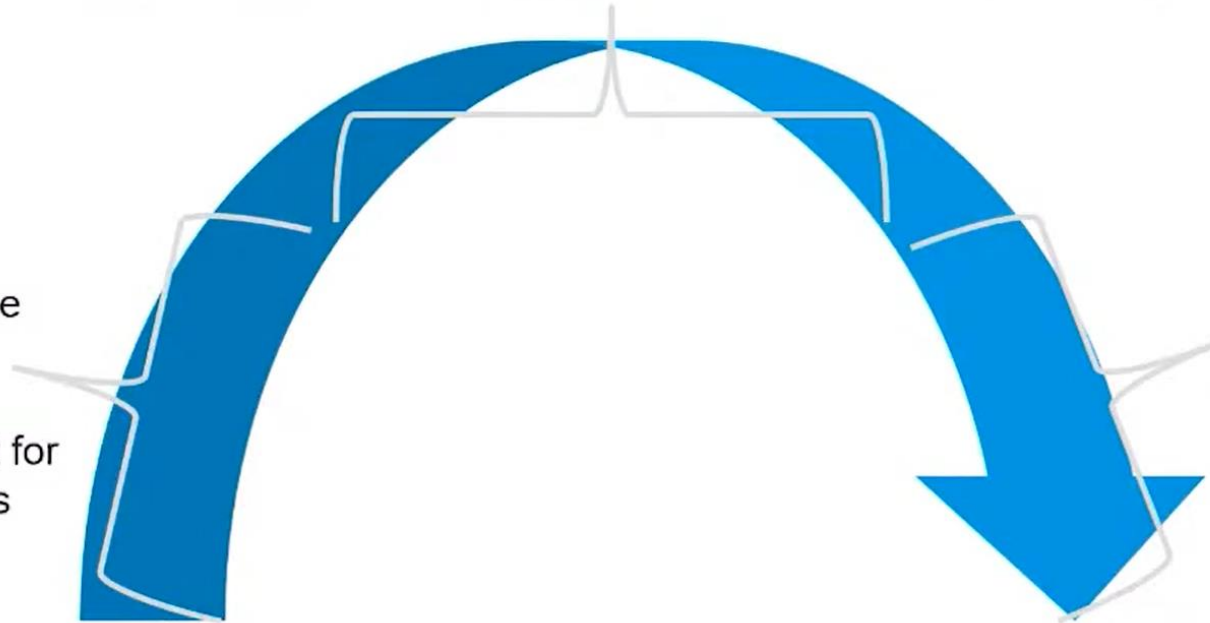


Act II

- Nora seeks help from Dr. Rank, but his declaration of love stops her
- Krogstad deposits a letter revealing the family's secrets in the letter-box

Act I

- We meet the characters
- The future looks bright for the Helmers
- Nora faces Krogstad



Act III

- Nora dances the tarantella
- Dr. Rank leaves
- Nora faces Torvald

Structure: Novels

Chapters

Narrators

Time Frames

Settings

Practice: Novels

Kate Chopin's The Awakening

Alice Walker's The Color Purple

Cormac McCarthy's The Road

Your Turn:

Identify videos that support teaching/learning

Develop a graphic organizer

Q&A

Thank You

