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1. Read and analyze the sources.
2. Generate two or three potential theses.
3. Have a “conversation” with the authors/creators of the sources.
4. Refine the thesis, decide on sources, and plan the arrangement of your essay.

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Principle 1: There are three basic sentence forms: subject-verb (S-V), subject-verb-object (S-V-O), and subject-linking verb-complement (S-LV-C).

Principle 2: The two major players in all sentences are nouns and verbs.

Principle 3: Two modifiers, adjectives and adverbs, alter/change/modify other components.

Principle 4: Phrases and clauses build and develop sentences. They are often introduced or joined by prepositions and conjunctions.

Principle 5: Three types of phrases, infinitive, gerund, and participial, are introduced by verb forms.

Principle 6: Words, phrases, and clauses can be players, acting as nouns; and they can be modifiers, acting as adjectives or adverbs.

Principle 7: Pronouns stand in for nouns.

Principle 8: The Combining Principle: All the elements of sentence architecture can multiply and combine.

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We have designed *Writing America: Language and Composition in Context AP* Edition so that it can be used as the foundational text in a course that emphasizes reading, writing, and analyzing texts. *Writing America* teaches reading as a dynamic, interactive process. It teaches writing as a craft, related to reading, that produces rich, purposeful, well-planned and well-executed texts. It teaches the structure and organization of texts, at the level of both the whole text and the sentence. It couches this instruction in an examination of vitally important works of American literature, art, and culture, accompanied by a study of contemporary pieces that unpack current thinking on the issues and themes raised by the historical works.

Above all else, we have designed *Writing America* so that it can be the central text in a course about rhetoric, in the very best sense of that word: the art of finding all the available means of persuasion in a given case, the art of crafting texts so that they accomplish a purpose, forge a meaning, and the art of reading texts with an understanding of how meanings and effects are crafted. No matter what the course is called—Rhetoric and Composition, Advanced Placement English Language and Composition, American Literature and Composition, or simply English—we believe that *Writing America* will serve students well as they learn to read, write, and understand the English language comprehensively in the twenty-first century. We believe that *Writing America* is a book that will serve teachers well as they work to help students become more skillful readers, writers, and thinkers.

**Features and Benefits**

*Writing America* addresses the interests of students, the Advanced Placement program, and the Common Core State Standards.

We have tried our best to create a textbook that resonates with three interrelated interests. First, we believe *Writing America* will appeal to any student studying English—reading, writing, and language use—during the junior or senior (or perhaps even sophomore) year of high school. Second, as former Chief Readers for the Advanced Placement English Language and Composition Examination, we know that *Writing America* addresses directly the curricular and pedagogical “centers of gravity” that the AP course and examination incorporate. Third, as we have studied the new Common Core State Standards for English/Language Arts and Literacy in the content areas, we are convinced that the emphases in *Writing America* on close reading, strong, purposeful writing, and careful attention to language will make the book an ideal foundation for instruction that embodies the principles of the Common Core State Standards.
Part One provides instruction on rhetorical reading and writing.

*Writing America* is divided into two major parts. The first is a seven-chapter text that explores rhetoric—in reading as well as writing. Chapters 1 and 2 introduce reading as meaning-making, focusing initially on the practice of reading in general and then on the roles that genre plays in helping students read critically, understanding the rhetoric of the texts they read. Chapter 3 introduces rhetoric as the art that links critical reading and effective writing, and then Chapters 4, 5, and 6 offer detailed instruction in the kinds of reading and writing that are involved when students engage in analysis, argument, and synthesis—three varieties of rhetorical activity that are incorporated in the Advanced Placement English Language and Composition course and are also central activities in most college and university courses. Chapter 7 concludes the first part of the book with principles of sentence construction that improve critical reading and writing. Features of this section of the text include:

- **Sample exam prompts and responses**, which give students the opportunity to preview aspects of the English Language and Composition Advanced Placement Examination.
- **Arrangement charts** to help students see the typical organization of types of essays.
- **Brief activities** throughout each chapter where students apply what they have just learned.
- **Chapter projects** to help students develop longer pieces of writing such as rhetorical analyses, arguments, and synthesis essays.
- **Chapter checklists** to give students a handy list of points to check when they are drafting and revising.

Part Two provides an anthology of American texts and visuals.

The second part of *Writing America* is a new kind of anthology. Organized by historical period, the anthology is first of all a collection of both readings and images, reflecting the fact that both verbal and visual texts have always shaped thought and culture in the United States. Second, each of the six units of the anthology is arranged around a central question that the readings and images respond to:

- How do we become a nation?
- How do we build a nation?
- How do we preserve a nation?
- How do we recover a nation?
- How should a nation change?
- How does a nation learn to live in the world?

Each anthology unit has a number of features that help students read and analyze the texts as well as make connections among them.
• A contemporary visual text provides an engaging introduction to the unit’s major themes.
• A brief overview of major events and issues of the unit’s historic period provides students with context for the readings and visuals.
• A selection of the period’s readings and visuals shows students how writers and artists approached the key questions of their time.
• A selection of contemporary readings brings the central questions of the unit into current conversation for today’s readers.
• Readings are designed to resemble their genre which not only provides visual interest, but calls students’ attention to how genre shapes an author’s aim as discussed in Chapter 2.
• Post-reading question sets consisting of Read, Write, and Connect items have students analyze the reading, write about aspects of the reading or its issues, and connect the reading to other readings in the text or to their own experiences.
• End-of-unit writing assignments give students the opportunity to write essays similar to those on the Advanced Placement Exam—rhetorical analyses, arguments, and synthesis essays.

Ideally, a high school English course can be a powerful agent of change for students. If students become in this kind of English course active meaning-makers as they read and write, they also, at least potentially, become better, more active citizens, understanding that, in the twenty-first century, they are surrounded by all kinds of texts that beg for critical meaning-making: political documents urging them to support or reject candidates, letters soliciting their applications to universities, fliers claiming to help with university costs with loans and credit cards, brochures detailing advantages of military service. If students in a course that uses Writing America become more capable in recognizing how texts of all kinds work to convince and persuade readers to action, how texts bond readers to communities of ideologies, beliefs, and practices, then the course, we believe, will have helped them become better citizens as well as better students.

Resources for Teachers and Students

An extensive package of supplements is available for the AP* Edition of Writing America. These resources were specifically designed to ensure that students are well supported as they approach the rigors of college-level language instruction by providing clear, accessible, and scaffolded instruction appropriate for today’s high school classroom.

Instructor Resource Center

Many of the teacher supplements are available electronically at no charge to qualified adopters from the Instructor Resource Center (IRC).
Your Pearson MyLab

Your Pearson MyLab delivers diagnostic and personalized writing instruction, practice, and assessments to ensure all students are well supported as they learn to craft rich, effective essays. From basic writing skill remediation through college readiness enrichment, your Pearson MyLab provides differentiated instruction and accessible support through multimedia tutorials, interactive exercises, sample essays, and multiple opportunities to practice and apply difficult concepts.

Your Pearson MyLab is an eminently flexible application that teachers can use in ways that best complement their students’ needs and teaching styles. They can recommend it to students for self-study, track student progress, or leverage the power of administrative features to be more effective and save time. The composing space includes an assignment builder and commenting tools that bring teachers closer to their student writers, make managing assignments and evaluating papers more efficient, and put powerful assessments within reach. Students receive feedback within the context of their own writing, which encourages critical thinking and revision and helps them to develop skills based on their individual needs.

**Online AP* Test Bank**, exclusive to your Pearson MyLab, offers 500 AP-style multiple choice questions with instant feedback to test students’ comprehension of the concepts in each chapter and many of the readings in the anthology section and prepare them for the rigors of the exam. The Test Bank items are also available as downloadable resources on the IRC.

**Pearson eText**, an interactive eText of *Writing America*, is available in your Pearson MyLab, coupling the many resources of your Pearson MyLab with the instructional content of the text to create an enhanced learning experience for students. Marginal icons in the Pearson eText link to a wealth of online resources:

- **Watch the Video** on the Rhetorical Appeals at Your Pearson MyLab
- **Analyze the Advertisement** at Your Pearson MyLab
- **Complete Additional Exercises** on Twain’s Essay at Your Pearson MyLab

Video tutorials illustrate key concepts, offering tips and guidance on critical reading, evaluating sources, avoiding plagiarism, and many other topics.

Sample documents illustrate the range of writing students do in composition classes, their other courses, the workplace, and the community.

Quizzes in your Pearson MyLab help students assess their understanding of concepts and readings, and give them practice with the types of questions they will encounter on the Advanced Placement Exam.
Free Teacher Preview Access

For FREE Teacher Preview Access: Register at www.PearsonSchool.com/Access_Request. Using Option #2, Teacher Preview Access, select Language Arts, select Jolliffe, Writing America, Pearson MyLab with eText. After following the registration prompts you will receive a confirmation email with login and access information.

Adoption Access


After following registration prompts, you will receive a confirmation email with login and access information for teacher and students within 48 hours. Accounts are good for one year from date of activation. Each year thereafter (in or around May), for the life of the adoption, the registered teacher will receive a new set of teacher and student access codes via email for the following school year. Teachers are responsible for distributing access codes to their students each year. Teachers may choose to “copy” their course from year to year or to create a new course each year. In the event of a personnel change in the school, the new teacher responsible for this course and textbook can follow the above instructions to receive access and register his or her email to receive the annual renewal registration for the balance of the adoption cycle.

For more information about your Pearson MyLab, visit: www.PearsonSchool.com/MyEnglishLabs.

100% Digital

A perfect solution for one-to-one or virtual learning environments, Writing America eText is available as a 100% digital option for one- or six-year access:

- Your Pearson MyLab with Writing America eText—Get all of the powerful resources of Pearson MyLab plus the full, interactive eText.
- CourseSmart for PearsonSchool—For eText access only, CSPS offers flexible features allowing students to search the text, bookmark passages, save their own notes, and print reading assignments that incorporate lecture notes.
- Android and iPad eTextbooks—Android and iPad versions of the eText provide the complete text and the electronic resources described above.

Contact your Account Executive for ordering information.

AP* Test Prep and Student Study Guide Workbook

This student study guide provides AP test-taking strategies and tips as well as sample multiple choice and essay questions. Student samples of AP essays representing all levels of writing scores (1–9) are annotated and backed by commentary to
provide students with the insight and understanding they need to assess their and
others’ writing. These examples, coupled with scaffolded instructional support on
how to approach reading, writing, and analyzing text, offer students a self-directed
and accessible tool to help them succeed in the AP classroom.

**AP* Teacher’s Manual: Teaching Composition with *Writing America***

This AP* Teacher’s Manual will help teachers present materials in the context of
preparing for the AP Exam. It includes an overview of and teaching suggestions
for each chapter, answers to all exercises and every study question in the anthology,
plus a wealth of in-class activities, lesson planning tips, and classroom exercises.

In addition, the manual provides correlations to both the Common Core State
Standards and AP Language and Composition objectives to better support teachers
in meeting the rigorous demands of the AP course while ensuring ample coverage
of college readiness outcomes. The included sample syllabi incorporates elements
of an American Literature course with the AP English Language and Composition
objectives to give teachers a foundation to address both standards and the flexibility
to customize instruction based on their specific course needs.

**PowerPoints to Accompany *Writing America***

The PowerPoints that accompany *Writing America* offer chapter-by-chapter class-
room-ready lecture outline slides, lecture tips and classroom activities, and review
questions. It is available for download from the Instructor Resource Center.

**Test Bank**

The *Writing America* Test Bank offers 500 questions that test student comprehen-
sion of the content of each chapter. The Test Bank, which resides in MyLab, serves as
an assessment tool, allowing teachers the ability to measure each student’s mastery
of every topic covered in the book.

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Hephzibah Roskelly is professor of English at the University of North Carolina Greensboro, where she teaches courses in rhetoric, composition, American literature, and women’s studies. She is a former Chief Reader of the English Language and Composition Advanced Placement Examination and test development member, and she now serves on the Advisory Board for the College Board. Professor Roskelly conducts institutes for high school teachers and students across the country on building academic skills in writing and interpretation. Her books include Everyday Use: Rhetoric in Reading and Writing with David A. Jolliffe (Pearson, 2010) and Breaking Into the Circle: Groups for Gender and Racial Equity (Heinemann, 2000).