

AP English Language Multiple Choice Question Stems

Structure
The structure of...is marked by...
The syntax of the sentence in lines...serves to...
Describe the structure of the sentence in lines...
...is unified by metaphorical references pertaining to...
As the sentence in lines...is constructed,...is parallel to which of the following?
The speaker describes...in an order best described as...
The pattern of exposition exemplified in the passage is best described as...
Despite its length,...remains coherent chiefly because of its use of...
In line...the use of...instead of...accomplishes which of the following?
Which of the following best describes the function of...in relation to...
Purpose
What is the speaker's purpose in writing this passage?
Which of the following best states the speaker's purpose in lines...
The speaker accomplishes all of the following EXCEPT...
In line...the author emphasizes...because...
...is described as...because it...
What is the function of...introduced by...in line...
What is the effect achieved by the speaker's using the phrases...
Rhetorical Strategies
What dominant technique/rhetorical strategy is the speaker using in lines...
The sentence...contains which of the following?
The...referred to in lines...is called...because...
All of the following may be found in the passage EXCEPT...
All of the following qualities are present in the scene described in...EXCEPT...
Argument
The author uses which method to develop his argument?
The speaker's mention of...is appropriate to the development of the argument as an illustration of..
The type of argument employed by...is most similar to which of the following?
The author's discussion of...depends on which of the following?
Assertions/Beliefs
In lines..., the speaker/author asserts that...
The term...conveys the speaker's belief that...
Which of the following is true about the various assertions made in the passage?
Which of the following would the author be least likely to encourage in a person?
Contrast
What contrast does the speaker develop in lines...
The contrast between...and...is based on...
Juxtaposing...and...serves the purpose of...
In sentences...the speaker develops or implies contrasts between all of the following EXCEPT...
Attitude
The speaker's attitude toward...is best described as one of...
In..., which of the following most suggests a...attitude on the part of the author?
The speaker assumes that the audience's attitude toward...will be one of...
Main Point/Theme
The passage is about...
Which of the following best summarizes the main point in...
The theme in...involves which of the following?

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Style/Tone
The style of the passage is best characterized as (usually has paired adjectives or paired tone nouns)
The tone of the passage is...
The atmosphere established in...is mainly one of...
Word/Phrase Meaning
Which of the following best restates the meaning of...
In lines...the phrase...is used to refer to...
In..., the speaker seeks to interest us in the subject of the discussion by stressing the...
Word/Phrase Meaning in Context
Which of the following best defines...as controlled by the context?
In lines..."_____ " is the metaphorical way of saying...
In context, all of the following meanings are probably contained in...EXCEPT...
Grammar
The antecedent for...is...
The subject of the sentence in lines...is...
Point of View
The point of view indicated in...is that of...
The shift in point of view from...has the effect of...
Shifts
A shift of tone occurs in the passage in lines...
The phrase...signals a shift from...to...
Misc.
Which of the following best describes the result of...
What is the effect of...
It can be inferred by...that...
In lines...the speaker depicts himself as...
Which of the following best describes what...symbolizes?
The allusion...best reflects the thought that...
According to the passage,...is...because...
...is chiefly remarkable for its...
Finish the analogy...