

Question 3

(Suggested time—40 minutes. This question counts as one-third of the total essay section score.)

Many works of literature contain a character who intentionally deceives others. The character's dishonesty may be intended either to help or to hurt. Such a character, for example, may choose to mislead others for personal safety, to spare someone's feelings, or to carry out a crime.

Choose a novel or play in which a character deceives others. Then, in a well-written essay, analyze the motives for that character's deception and discuss how the deception 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.

<i>Anna Karenina</i>	<i>Jude the Obscure</i>
<i>As You Like It</i>	<i>The Kite Runner</i>
<i>Atonement</i>	<i>M. Butterfly</i>
<i>Beloved</i>	<i>Madame Bovary</i>
<i>The Blind Assassin</i>	<i>The Memory Keeper's Daughter</i>
<i>The Bonesetter's Daughter</i>	<i>Middlesex</i>
<i>The Burgess Boys</i>	<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>
<i>Catch-22</i>	<i>Never Let Me Go</i>
<i>The Color Purple</i>	<i>Oryx and Crake</i>
<i>Crime and Punishment</i>	<i>Othello</i>
<i>The Crucible</i>	<i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i>
<i>A Doll House</i>	<i>The Portrait of a Lady</i>
<i>Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close</i>	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i>
<i>The Great Gatsby</i>	<i>Snow Flower and the Secret Fan</i>
<i>Hamlet</i>	<i>Twelfth Night</i>
<i>Heart of Darkness</i>	<i>Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?</i>
<i>In the Lake of the Woods</i>	<i>The Women of Brewster Place</i>
<i>Invisible Man</i>	<i>Wuthering Heights</i>
<i>Jane Eyre</i>	<i>A Yellow Raft in Blue Water</i>

STOP

END OF EXAM

AP[®] ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

2016 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 3: Intentional Deception

The score should reflect the quality of the essay as a whole — its content, style, and mechanics. **Reward the students for what they do well.** The score for an exceptionally well-written essay may be raised by 1 point above the otherwise appropriate score. In no case may a poorly written essay be scored higher than a 3.

9–8 These essays offer a well-focused and persuasive analysis of the motives for the character's deception and how the deception contributes to the meaning of the work as a whole. Using apt and specific textual support, these essays analyze what motivates the character's deception and how the work as a whole is shaped by it. Although these essays may not be error-free, they make a strong case for their interpretation and discuss the literary work with significant insight and understanding. Essays scored a 9 reveal more sophisticated analysis and more effective control of language than do essays scored an 8.

7–6 These essays offer a reasonable analysis of the motives for the character's deception and how the deception contributes to the meaning of the work as a whole. These essays analyze what motivates the character's deception and how the work as a whole is shaped by it. While these papers demonstrate insight and understanding, their analysis is less thorough, less perceptive, and/or less specific in supporting detail than that of the 9–8 essays. Essays scored a 7 present better-developed analysis and more consistent command of the elements of effective composition than do essays scored a 6.

5 These essays respond to the assigned task with a plausible reading, but they tend to be superficial or thinly developed in analysis. They often rely upon plot summary that contains some analysis, implicit or explicit. Although the writers attempt to discuss what motivates the character's deception, they may demonstrate a rather simplistic understanding of its significance, and support from the text may be too general. While these writers demonstrate adequate control of language, their essays may be marred by surface errors. These essays are not as well conceived, organized, or developed as 7–6 essays.

4–3 These lower-half essays fail to offer an adequate analysis of the motives for a character's deception and how that deception contributes to the meaning of the work as a whole. The analysis may be partial, unsupported, or irrelevant, and the essays may reflect an incomplete or oversimplified understanding of the significance of what motivates the character's deception. They may not develop an analysis of the contribution of the character's deception to the meaning of the work as a whole, or they may rely on plot summary alone. These essays may be characterized by an unfocused or repetitive presentation of ideas, an absence of textual support, or an accumulation of errors; they may lack control over the elements of college-level composition. Essays scored a 3 may contain significant misreading and/or inept writing.

2–1 Although these essays make some attempt to respond to the prompt, they compound the weaknesses of the papers in the 4–3 range. Often, they are unacceptably brief or incoherent in presenting their ideas. They may be poorly written on several counts and contain distracting errors in grammar and mechanics. The student's remarks may be presented with little clarity, organization, or supporting evidence. Essays scored a 1 contain little coherent discussion of the text.

0 These essays give a response that is completely off topic or inadequate; there may be some mark or a drawing or a brief reference to the task.

— These essays are entirely blank.

Essay J

Throughout the play, "The Crucible," the main character Abigail deceives the entire community she lives in. The only reason she deceives everyone is to get back at John Proctor and every person who had ever wronged her. Deception creates confusion and chaos because no one knows what is true and what isn't.

Abigail Williams manages to deceive an entire community by convincing them that witches are among them. The whole idea of witchcraft began when she wanted revenge on John Proctor's wife. Abigail also formed this deception in order to protect herself from getting in trouble for her own actions. When Abigail and other girls were caught dancing around the fire naked she instantly blamed witchcraft in order to protect herself. She never thought of how this lie could effect the community. In a sense Abigail was only trying to protect herself. She didn't care who she hurt in order to make sure she didn't get into trouble.

Abigail Williams was so set on saving herself that she let her deception get out of hand. She made every girl involved lie no matter what. She didn't show remorse that innocent women were being put to death because of her deception. Her motives were selfish and caused many unnecessary deaths. As more and more people believed her the more she realized she could get rid of anyone who wronged her. She targeted women specifically to get rid of them because she didn't like them.

Abigail's deception is what drives the entire play. Deception manipulates people which is evident in the play when every community member believes that there's witchcraft. Deception can cloud people's judgement and influence their thought process. "The Crucible" emphasizes how others are influenced so easily by one another and how it's hard to change a person's view when the majority believes in the same thing. Also fear influences how people act and out of fear some make poor judgements that could alter a person's life. Abigail's fear of being in trouble for her actions brought on her deception.

Had Abigail not feared the consequences of her actions she would've have lied to the community. However she let her fear cloud her judgement which is why she lied. No matter how many people died because of her lies, she still continued to lie. Her deception was only for her own self interest. She wasn't trying to protect anyone else. The use of deception in the play emphasized how fear influences individuals and makes people act differently than they normally would.

Essay N

Deception is at the foundation of The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald. In this portrayal of 1920's bootlegging world of the rich and famous nobody truly is who they say they are. While many characters lie for sex, love, or money, only one lies for friendship and out of loyalty. Nick Carraway never chose to get caught up in the crazy world of Daisy, Gatsby, and Tom he simply just wanted to sell bonds, but he fell into that world and never got out. Nick's lies and deceptions were never for his own personal gain, unlike every other character, but rather out of loyalty to his "friends" to protect them. Which is a rather odd idea in this story considering the miniscule amount of selflessness to ever occur in this book.

Nick quickly becomes close with his neighbor Gatsby even though he knows he is still lying to him about his past, but Nick accepts his lies and all. This friendship puts Nick in a predicament when Gatsby and Daisy begin seeing each other. Now Nick is forced to lie to Tom, his old friend and Daisy's husband, about their relationship. Nick holds to this lie for as long as he is involved, and he is never proud to lie. Not only does Tom lie to Tom, but also for him. When Tom takes Nick into the city he introduces him to his mistress, Myrtle, and takes him to their secret apartment. Now he has become a part of Tom's deceitful world and must lie in order to protect his friend and his cousin Daisy.

Nick's deception throughout the novel often goes unnoticed despite how constant it is. There is one difference though between Nick's deception and everyone else's, and that is his motives. Nick sought only to protect those who he cared about not one of his lies advanced his life or social standing in any way, while the other characters sought only to do just that. Nick lied to Gatsby about how Daisy actually did love Tom because he knew this would destroy him. He lied to Tom about Gatsby and Daisy because he knew this would drive Tom to extreme rage. He lied to Daisy because even though she knew Tom was cheating news of Nick seeing it happen would shatter the world she had created to keep herself sane. These lies are the basis of the entire novel. They create the twisted relationships and conflicts that push the story forward in order to reveal Fitzgerald's perspective on the wild world of the 1920's and the deceitful nature of man.

Nick Carraway knew every truth and every lie in that world, a power he never asked for. Yet despite being surrounded by deceit and shadows Nick only ever told one lie of his own creation. He convinced himself that these people were his friends and that it would all work out in the end. But this was quite possibly the biggest lie of them all.