

AP Literature and Composition  
Top 35 texts for Essay Question #3

The following texts appear in the order of the number of times they have been listed as choices for Essay Question 3 (including Form B) from 1999 to 2019:

1. *Invisible Man* Ralph Ellison (1952) 16
2. *Great Expectations* Charles Dickens (1861) 16
3. *Heart of Darkness* Joseph Conrad (1902) 15
4. *Crime and Punishment* Fyodor Dostoevsky (1866) 14
5. *Beloved* Toni Morrison (1987) 13
6. *King Lear*\* Shakespeare (1623) 13#
7. *Their Eyes Were Watching God* Zora Neale Hurston (1937) 11
8. *Wuthering Heights* Emily Bronte (1847) 11
9. *The Scarlet Letter* Nathaniel Hawthorne (1850) 11
10. *Jane Eyre* Charlotte Bronte (1847) 11
11. *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* James Joyce (1916) 11
12. *The Great Gatsby* F. Scott Fitzgerald (1925) 11
13. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* Mark Twain (1884) 10
14. *Catch-22* Joseph Heller (1961) 9
15. *Death of a Salesman*\* Arthur Miller (1949) 9
16. *All the King's Men* Robert Penn Warren (1946) 8
17. *Moby Dick* Herman Melville (1851) 8
18. *Ceremony* Leslie Marmon Silko (1977) 8
19. *Song of Solomon* Toni Morrison (1977) 8
20. *The Grapes of Wrath* John Steinbeck (1939) 8
21. *The Awakening* Kate Chopin (1899) 8
22. *Anna Karenina* Leo Tolstoy (1877) 8
23. *Things Fall Apart* Chinua Achebe (1958) 8#
24. *Native Son* Richard Wright (1940) 8
25. *Frankenstein* Mary Shelley (1818) 7#
26. *A Streetcar Named Desire*\* Tennessee Williams (1947) 7
27. *As I Lay Dying* William Faulkner (1930) 7
28. *The Mayor of Casterbridge* Thomas Hardy (1886) 7
29. *All the Pretty Horses* Cormac McCarthy (1992) 7
30. *Sula* Toni Morrison (1973) 7
31. *Billy Budd* Herman Melville (1886) 7
32. *Hamlet*\* Shakespeare (1603) 7#
33. *Equus*\* Peter Shaffer (1973) 6
34. *Obasan* Joy Kogawa (1981) 6
35. *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*\* Tom Stoppard (1966) 6

\* denotes play

#denotes work to be read in class