

AP Language Essay 5: The Unknown



Prompt

In her book *Gift from the Sea*, author and aviator Anne Morrow Lindbergh writes, “We tend not to choose the unknown which might be a shock or disappointment or simply a little difficult to cope with. And yet it is the unknown with all its disappointments and surprises that is the most enriching.”

Consider the value Lindbergh places on choosing the unknown. Then write an essay in which you develop your own position on the value of exploring the unknown. Use appropriate, specific evidence to illustrate and develop your position.



Requirements

- Please submit a typed response that uses a legible 12point font, 1" margins, a double-spaced body, and a simple single spaced header.
- Your response should include both an introduction and conclusion, both of which should be short and direct.
- Your paper should be between 800 and 1400 words, with minimal use of outside research.
- You **must include the topic sentence and thesis structure we have reviewed in class, a STAMPY intro, two naysayers, and at least 4 specific pieces of evidence.** This evidence **should not be something you research**, but should come from your classes, reading, and other knowledge.

Tips

- One of the great things about the AP persuasive argument is that you can use a wide variety of information and ideas to construct your argument. The downside is that you can use a wide variety of information and ideas. ☺ Stick with your best academic argument, limiting personal references and examples.
- Have a well-developed thesis that you stick with. Organization is paramount.
- Don't be afraid to break the five-paragraph mold. Use an organic structure that suits your argument, not some antiquated idea of what an essay looks like.
- Limit your use of outside quotations. Because you won't be able to use outside sources on the AP exam, it's important to practice writing without them.