

AP Literature- Optional Allusions Research

Allusions are references in literature to other works, events, people, or places. Knowing some of the most common allusions is helpful when analyzing literature-as these references are purposeful you know they must add something important to the meaning of the text!

Research unfamiliar terms, write a paragraph analysis of each with proper citations-practice that skill-and be sure to have the following in your analysis:

- **A brief origin of the term/ phrase-** what is the history/ story surrounding the term, where did the story originate? An explanation as to what the term/ phrase means. **Explain the current use of this term. Note: this is a research based assignment; you should only use scholarly sources and use the [OWL](#) at Purdue MLA instructions for citations.**
- **Useful sources :** The Bible, Edith Hamilton’s Mythology, Bulfinch’s Mythology, literary databases/encyclopedias (Bloom’s and the like)
- **Unacceptable and often unreliable sources :** Wikipedia, Sparknotes, LitCharts and the like, movies, television shows.

Allusion List

Literary	Mythological	Biblical
1. Pollyanna	1. Prometheus/ promethean	1. manna in the desert
2. albatross around one’s neck	2. Medusa	2. the golden calf
3. Faust/ Faustian bargain	3. Sisyphus/ Sisyphean	3. turn the other cheek
4. Lothario	4. Phoenix	4. the blind leading the blind
5. malapropism	5. Bacchanal/ bacchanalian	5. walk on water
6. Lolita	6. Narcissus/ narcissism	6. the good Samaritan
7. milquetoast	7. Tantalus/ tantalize	7. the prodigal son
8. Svengali	8. The Furies	8. Cain and Abel
9. Scheherazade	9. Pandora’s box	9. the wedding feast at Cana
10. Catch-22	10. Sirens	10. Sodom and Gomorrah
11. Kafkaesque	11. Electra/ Electra complex	11. the death of John the Baptist
12. Don Juan	12. Oedipus/ Oedipal complex	12. the plagues of Egypt
13. Mad woman in the attic	13. Pyrrhic victory	13. Doubting Thomas
14. Quixotic	14. Tiresias	14. Song of Solomon
15. Big Brother	15. Pan	15. Tower of Babel

AP Literature- Optional FRQ Response Analysis

Read through the sample responses to FRQs 1, 2, and 3 from 2019. As you read, complete the following template for each response. Then review the AP Reader responses and complete the templates with notes about what made a response either a strong one with a high score or a weak one with a low score.

Claim:

Evidence:

MOWAW (meaning of the work as a whole):

Reader Response Notes:

FRQs & Reader Responses:

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/pdf/ap19-apc-english-literature-q1.pdf>

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/pdf/ap19-apc-english-literature-q2.pdf>

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/pdf/ap19-apc-english-literature-q3.pdf>