2010 AP® English Language & Composition Free-Response Questions

English Language & Composition

Section II

Total time – 2 hours

Question 1

(Suggested time – 40 minutes. This question counts 1/3 of the total essay section score.)

**Directions:** The following prompt is based on the accompanying six sources.

This question requires you to synthesize a variety of sources into a coherent, well-written essay. When you synthesize sources, you refer to them to develop your position and cite them accurately. *Your argument should be central; the sources should support your argument. Avoid merely summarizing the sources*.

**Introduction**

Juan Williams worked for NPR and has occasionally appeared on Fox News as a contributor and guest panelist. After Whoopi Goldberg and Joy Behar walked off *The View* when Bill O'Reilly said Muslims attacked us on 9/11, Bill O’Reilly discussed the issue further on his show – “The O’Reilly Factor” – a show that airs on Fox News Channel. Juan Williams was a guest and he said that he gets nervous when he sees Muslims or anyone dressed in “that kind of garb on an airplane.” NPR spoke with Juan Williams the next day and fired him. Since his firing, Williams has signed a $2 million deal contract with Fox News.

**Assignment**

Read the following sources (including the introductory information) carefully. **Then, in an essay that synthesizes at least four of the sources for support, evaluate NPR’s decision to fire Juan Williams.**

You may refer to the sources by their titles (Source 1, Source 2, etc.) or by the descriptions in parentheses.

Source 1 (William’s appearance on O’Reilly Factor)

Source 2 (Public Radio Finances)

Source 3 (Richard Reid Sentencing)

Source 4 (Bozell III)

Source 5 (Hinckley)

Source 6 (Trzpec)

Source 7 (Garrett)