

2011 AP® English Language and Composition Free-Response

Question 3 Form B (Mencken)

American essayist and social critic H. L. Mencken (1880–1956) wrote, “The average man does not want to be **free**. He simply wants to be safe.” In a well-written essay, examine the extent to which Mencken’s observation applies to contemporary society, supporting your position with appropriate evidence.