AP Literature & Composition

Apply *The Road* to one of the two AP Literature Prompts below. Work the prompt before you begin to craft your essay.

From the 1982 AP Lit & Comp Exam. In great literature, no scene of violence exists for its own sake. Choose a work of literary merit that confronts the reader or audience with a scene or scenes of violence. In a well-organized essay, explain how the scene or scenes contribute to the meaning of the complete work. Avoid plot summary.

From the 1985 AP Lit & Comp Exam. A critic has said that one important measure of a superior work of literature is its ability to produce in the reader a healthy confusion of pleasure and disquietude. Select a literary work that produces this "healthy confusion." Write an essay in which you explain the sources of the "pleasure and disquietude" experienced by the readers of the work.