

How Long to Get a Response.  
Brian and Jamie Just Kept  
Asking and Finally.....

Trevor's  
Tweets 1.5  
Weeks Later



# Sorry it took so long with little certainty provided in any official forum...

Apologies for the churn about two issues:

1. Whether or not students can submit PDFs of handwritten work. Initially, we said no, as handwritten work has to go through additional technology conversions to be scanned for plagiarism, and PDFs were a barrier to that for handwritten, but not typed, work. Over the weekend, we were able to resolve this issue, so rather than sticking to that position, we revised it to allow PDFs of handwritten work. We updated the FAQs on our website to reflect this.
2. Whether or not students can open the exam browser on two devices. Originally, our Tech team felt this would be viable, but in further testing, we cannot recommend this option. So while students can use two devices, they should only click the e-ticket and open the exam on one of them.

Here are the updated FAQs from our website. Thanks for your patience with these updates.

- ▶ Do NOT put scanned photo's (those that have been converted to PDF's) in the "Photo UpLoad"

### **Can students submit a PDF of their handwritten work?**

Yes, so long as they combine all photos of their handwritten response into a single PDF for that question.

Important: once photos of their handwritten work are saved as a PDF, they are no longer considered photos by the system, but documents: PDFs are document files, not image files. So when the timer reaches 5 minutes remaining, the student must click the "Attach Response" button within the exam and then select "**Attach Text File**" to locate their saved PDF, rather than the "Attach Photos" button.

# What the heck is OCR software? (Optical Character Recognition)

Jamie -

This directly contradicts what Trevor Packer was saying about the OCR plagiarism software being used for handwritten responses - which is why a PDF can not contain handwritten work. Could we please get a definitive clarification here because the back and forth is giving me whiplash :-)

Thanks

Erin

## **Can students use two devices during the exam?**

Yes. Students can use two devices, as long as the e-ticket is only used on ONE device.

We don't recommend multiple device options in the AP Testing Guide, because it's more complicated and time-consuming, but if your students are confident in their ability to use multiple devices, it's not prohibited to do so.

Here's how:

1. The student clicks the e-ticket on their laptop/desktop, which will open up the exam on that machine, where the student will view the exam question(s) and the timer.
2. The student can then handwrite their response and photograph it with a smartphone or tablet.

3. When no fewer than 5 minutes remain, the student should email or transfer the photo(s) to their laptop/desktop and save the photos to a folder they can find easily.

Note: if the student has a cloud-based file storage system they can access on both devices (e.g., Google Drive or iCloud), the student can access the photos from their laptop/desktop, but then must save the photo to their laptop/desktop as a .jpg, .jpeg, or .png file. **The HEIC photo file format common to Apple devices can't be submitted as is; see the relevant FAQ about HEIC files below**

4. The student then clicks "Attach Response," and then selects "Attach Photos."
5. After the student ensures that all photos for that question have been attached, the student must click "Submit" before the time expires. In each case, as always, students should wait for the upload to complete and the "Your AP Exam is Complete" confirmation message to appear before they close the exam browser window.

A new post was added by John Bennett:

[https://apcommunity.collegeboard.org/group/apchem/discussion-boards/-/message\\_boards/view\\_message/172197713](https://apcommunity.collegeboard.org/group/apchem/discussion-boards/-/message_boards/view_message/172197713)

RE: use of both laptop and smartphone for AP Exam

UGH!!!!!!

You say "Yes. Students can use two devices, as long as the e-ticket is only used on ONE device."

See attachment with Trvor's tweet: "they can click their e-ticket on a second device to view the exam browser"

Which is it?

I routinely email myself pictures from my phone to my computer. There are times that it can take up to 15 minutes for it to show up. This is not "more complicated and time-consuming" as is being repeated over and over. It is WAY easier AND LESS COMPLICATED AND LESS TIME-CONSUMING to log into two devices.

I have already told my students it is OK to log into two devices after waiting for a definitive answer, which I thought I got after Trvor's tweet.

## **Can student submit an HEIC file of a photo of their handwritten work?**

Recent iPhones and iPads save photos as HEIC files. HEIC photo files can't be submitted "as is" in the online exam. They must be converted to an accepted file format. Here are two ways students can do that:

- Update their Apple device settings before the exam so that their photos will be saved as .jpeg files: Settings > Camera > Formats > Select "Most Compatible"

OR

- Resave the HEIC file as an accepted file format: the easiest way to convert an HEIC file is for students to email it to themselves using the iPhone or iPad Mail app. The attached image will automatically be converted to a JPEG.



What the heck does HEIC stand for??

High Efficiency Image File (Hmm-  
▼ why C?)

Apparently, there is also an HEIF  
(High Efficiency Image File  
Format???)

## Can a student use Apple Pencil to write their response on a tablet?

Yes, the Apple Pencil can be used with apps like Word or Notes to compose a response. Before exam day, the student should decide which file type they will submit – an image file or a text file – and practice creating a response in a particular app and saving the file in one of the accepted file formats:

- If saving as an image: the student should save each page as a .jpg, .jpeg, or .png file and use the “Attach Photos” option. They should remember to attach all images before clicking “Submit.”
- If saving as a text file: the student should save the all pages of the response as a .doc, .docx, .pdf, .txt, .odt file and use the “Attach Text File” option.

SO...it turns out the “No Dual Modalities” message was also wrong?

## Can a student use an equation editor to develop their response?

It depends:

- Yes, if the student saves their response as a **PDF** and then attaches it using the "Attach Text File" option. The student should check the PDF carefully before submitting it.
- No, if the student plans to copy and paste their response into the field in online exam. The copy/paste option does not recognize images, and since equation editors create images, students cannot copy/paste responses that contain mathematical, scientific, or other symbols and notations. Instead, the student should save and attach as a PDF any responses that utilize an equation editor, or if a student wants to copy/paste, the student **MUST** use the typing guides available at [cb.org/apexamdaydocs](http://cb.org/apexamdaydocs) instead of using an equation editor.