



Bishop McGuinness
English Department
Summer Reading Assignment

COURSE: Pre-AP English II

TEACHER NAME(S): Ms. Engel

Summer Reading: Pre-AP English II

To be prepared for Pre-AP English II, complete the following reading and writing assignments before the school year begins.

Due: This work the first day of school both printed and ready to submit into a Google folder. Your individual Google folder for Pre-AP English II will be set up by me and shared as school begins.

Novel/Book to Read:

Catcher in the Rye JD Salinger

How to Read Literature Like A Professor Thomas C. Foster

1. **Read** Catcher in the Rye before you read How to Read Literature Like a Professor.
2. **Read** How to Read Literature Like a Professor
3. **Write: Writing Assignments:** The following are the required writing assignments for both How to Read Literature Like a Professor and Catcher in the Rye.
 - a. **Writing Assignment: How to Read Literature Like a Professor** by Thomas C. Foster (Adapted from Donna Anglin). **The chapters marked with an asterisk are chapters that you will relate to the novel Catcher in the Rye.**
 - i. For all chapters (both the CTR and other), respond with a thoughtful paragraph following the instructions in the prompt.
 - ii. Identify the chapter by name and bold the print.

- iii. Type this part of the assignment on one Google doc entitled “Summer Work: How to Read Literature Like a Professor”
 - iv. Note: There are several chapters purposefully omitted from this assignment. You do not need to read these chapters or respond to them before school begins.
- b. **Creative Writing Assignment: Catcher in the Rye**
- i. 3 creative writing options detailed below.

A. Writing Assignment: How to Read Literature Like a Professor

1. Introduction: How'd He Do That?

How do memory, symbol, and pattern affect the reading of literature? How does the recognition of patterns make it easier to read complicated literature? Discuss a time when your appreciation of a literary work was enhanced by understanding symbol or pattern.

2. *Chapter 1 -- Every Trip Is a Quest (Except When It's Not)

List the five aspects of the quest and then apply them to CTR (Catcher in the Rye). Identify the steps of the quest and the part of novel that reflects the quest aspect.

3. *Chapter 2 -- Nice to Eat with You: Acts of Communion

Choose a meal from CTR and apply the ideas of Chapter 2 to this literary depiction. Remember, meals can also be considered ‘failed communion’ if they end early or are interrupted. Also, a meal does not have to consist of lots of food or have a traditional setting. Explain the meal you choose and discuss how this is an act of communion.

4. Chapter 3: --Nice to Eat You: Acts of Vampires

What are the essentials of the vampire story? Discuss a novel, movie, or TV show that reflects the use of the vampire story as described in this chapter - NOT literal vampire stories like Twilight, etc.

5. Chapter -- If It's Square, It's a Sonnet

Select a sonnet (14 lines of rhymed poetry), type out the sonnet, then mark the rhyme scheme and underline any literary devices you recognize. Explain the literary devices and discuss the meaning of the sonnet. Submit the annotated copy of the sonnet.

6. Chapter 5 --Now, Where Have I Seen Her Before?

Define intertextuality. Discuss a novel, movie, or TV show that reflects the use of intertextuality. Explain your choice.

7. Chapter 6 -- When in Doubt, It's from Shakespeare...

Discuss a novel, movie, or TV show that you are familiar with that alludes to or reflects Shakespeare – could be in plot, character, or theme. Explain how the Shakespeare work relates to the chosen work of comparison.

8. Chapter 7 -- ...Or the Bible: Many works (novels, films, TV shows) make allusions to the bible either in the names used, through the plot or reflected in the character(s). Think of a work - movie, novel, TV show – that reflects one or more elements of a biblical story. Do NOT be literal here.

9. Chapter 8 -- Hanseldee and Greteldum: Think of a story that is, in truth, a fairytale being retold in some fashion. This can be a movie, TV show and/or novel. Identify the title of the work and describe the fairytale or fairytale elements that it reflects.

10. Chapter 9 -- It's Greek to Me

Write a free verse poem derived or inspired by characters or situations from Greek mythology. Be prepared to share your poem with the class. Note that there are extensive links to classical mythology on my Classics page.

11. *Chapter 10 -- It's More Than Just Rain or Snow

Discuss the importance of weather in literature, not only in terms of plot but also mood and as symbol. Identify a scene from the novel, CITR, wherein the weather is symbolic and quite identifying as well.

12. *Chapter 11 --...More Than It's Gonna Hurt You: Concerning Violence

Define the two kinds of violence found in literature. Is Holden a violent person? Support your answer with a quotation from the novel CITR.

13. *Chapter 12 -- Is That a Symbol?

Define symbolism. Identify a symbol in the novel CITR. There are many to choose from, just choose one, describe the symbol, and explain what you think it stands for and why.

14. Chapter 13 -- It's All Political

Assume that Foster is right and "it is all political." Use this criteria to show that one of the major works assigned to you as a freshman is political.

15. Chapter 14 -- Yes, She's a Christ Figure, Too

Apply the criteria outlined on page 119 to a major character in a significant literary work, or film or TV show. Try to choose a character that will have many matches. For example, *Star Wars*, *Cool Hand Luke*, *Excalibur*, *Malcolm X*, *Braveheart*, *Spartacus*, *Gladiator* and *Ben-Hur*.

16. *Chapter 15 -- Flights of Fancy

Select a scene in CITR where flight signifies escape or freedom. Supply a quote from the selected scene and explain flight in relation to it.

17. Chapter 16 -- It's All About Sex... Chapter 17 -- ...Except the Sex

OK ..the sex chapters. The key idea from this chapter is that "scenes in which sex is coded rather than explicit can work at multiple levels and sometimes be more intense than literal depictions". In other words, sex is often suggested with much more art and effort than it is described, and, if the author is doing his job, it reflects and creates theme or character. Choose a novel, movie or TV show in which sex is suggested, but not described or explicitly shown, and discuss how the relationship is suggested and how this implication affects the story development.

18. *Chapter 18 -- If She Comes Up, It's Baptism

Think of a "baptism scene" from a CTR. How was the character different after the experience? Provide a quote from the scene and discuss how it is baptismal.

19. Chapter 19 -- Geography Matters...

Discuss at least four different aspects of a literary work that Foster would classify under "geography."

20. *Chapter 20 -- ...So Does Season

Consider the season of year that the action of CTR happens in. Discuss the literal season of the year that serves as the setting for CTR and how this operates on a symbolic level as well.

21. Interlude -- One Story

Define archetype. How can a story line be archetypal? Think of a film, TV show or novel that relies on archetype. Discuss the story and how archetype is developed.

22. Chapter 21 -- Marked for Greatness

Identify and discuss a character from a novel, movie or TV show that has a mark of some kind. What is the effect of this marked character on the story? On other characters? Is it hidden or obvious? Is the mark revered or feared or both?

23. Chapter 22 -- He's Blind for a Reason, You Know; Chapter 23 -- It's Never Just Heart Disease...; Chapter 24 -- ...And Rarely Just Illness

Recall a character that died of a disease in a novel, movie or TV show. Consider how this death reflects the "principles governing the use of disease in literature" (215-217). Discuss the effectiveness of the death as related to plot, theme, or symbolism.

24. Chapter 25 -- Don't Read with Your Eyes

After reading Chapter 25, choose a scene or episode from a novel or play written before the 21st century - think Shakespeare, etc. Imagine how its original audience versus by an audience from the twenty-first century viewed the novel or play.

25. Chapter 26 -- Is He Serious? And Other Ironies

Define the 3 different types of irony. Think of a film, TV show or novel that uses irony. Identify what type of irony it is and how this is revealed.

B. Creative Writing Assignment: Catcher in the Rye: Respond to the character of Holden Caulfield in one of the following ways:

1. Imagine a conversation with Holden. What would you ask him about? What would he say about teenagers today? What advice would he give you? Would you meet with him again? Ask him about Phoebe.
 - Write a 2 page of dialogue reflecting your conversation.
 - Describe the setting and mood of the conversation.
 - Create a clever title for this account.
2. Imagine that you are able to tag along with Holden and Phoebe as they wander around NYC for a day.
 - Where would you go together? What would the conversation and/or commentary be like? Would you visit the old familiar sites from the novel? Go to a play?
 - Write a 2-page story with some dialogue about this day spent with Holden and Phoebe.
 - Create a clever title for this account.
3. Imagine Holden is a visiting alumnus to Pencey Prep.
 - Would he be married? Have a son or daughter there? Is a guest speaker?
 - Write a 2-page account of Holden's return to Pencey Prep with some dialogue.
 - Create a clever title for this account.

Enjoy your summer reading! I hope you will find both books enjoyable and a pleasure to encounter.

Mrs. Engel