

Public Schools of Edison Township
AP Literature and Composition
Study Guide for Summer Reading

Dear Student:

You are expected to read the following texts: *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* (Thomas Foster) and *The Handmaid's Tale* (Margaret Atwood).

As you read the novel, be aware of your observations, reactions, and questions. A suggested way of handling this assignment is to write down your reactions and thoughts each time you put the book down. You should write directly in the book itself (if you own it) or on post-it notes.

Note what you like or dislike, what seems confusing or unusual to you. When you think you have an idea about what something means, jot that down in the book or on your post-it notes. Look for examples of writing you particularly like or dislike. Make a note about your reactions. Select five (5) meaningful quotations from the novel, record them on the attached organizer and explain the significance of each quotation. Bring the completed organizer to class on the first day of school.

The goal is for you to read thoughtfully and thoroughly. Do not rely upon the Internet to tell you what to think about the reading selections. Dare to think for yourselves!

As you read Foster, think about how you read and interpret novels and compare/contrast with what Foster says about reading novels. You are required to come to class on the first day of school having read and annotated both books. In addition, you must bring in three pieces of writing based upon your reading. Each piece should be a minimum of one page in length and typewritten.

- Explain how chapter 12 – “Is that a Symbol?” – connects to *The Handmaid's Tale*.
- Choose **two** (2) additional chapters and explain how they connect to *The Handmaid's Tale*.

Enjoy the summer. I am looking forward to meeting you and to discussing these novels with you.

Double-Entry Journal

Directions: While reading *The Handmaid's Tale* select **five (5)** meaningful quotations. Be sure to include quotations from the beginning, middle, and end of the novel. **TYPE** your quotations and commentary. No handwritten work will be accepted. Please adhere to the double-column format.

Meaningful Quotations (Include page numbers. Circle key words.)	Commentary and Analysis (Explain the importance of the quotations and the key word(s) identified.)