



AP English: Literature and Composition Summer Assignment

Assignment 1: How to Read Literature Like a Professor by Thomas C. Foster

Assignment 2: Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis

Assignment 3: How to Read Poetry Like a Professor by Thomas C. Foster

Assignment 4: A book of *your choice* from the following options: *King Lear* by William Shakespeare (17 times), *Ceremony* by Leslie Marmon Silko (11 times), *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston (13 times), *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte (20 times), or *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens (18 times).

ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE IN HARD COPY THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

DIGITAL VERSIONS OF ASSIGNMENT 2 WILL BE SUBMITTED TO TURNITIN.COM BY THE END OF THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL – 11:59 pm (You will be allowed 5% plagiarism).

Assignment for book 1: *buy an actual copy of this book – not digital.* This book will serve as a guide on how to analyze literature using classic archetypes, common symbols, and various literary devices—skills well-read, seasoned scholars develop from years of reading GOOD literature that promotes critical thinking. This is how you should expect to read and analyze literature this upcoming year and throughout life. HTRLLAP is how we will abbreviate the book. It is suggested that you read this book first in order to better analyze the assigned novels. Read the chapters of *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* in the order that they are listed. As you read, **highlight and annotate** (add explanatory notes in the margins) each chapter. I will look for a minimum of **5-7 highlights per chapter** that are focusing on Foster's main idea for that chapter and a **minimum of 2-3 explanatory notes** in the margins for each chapter. You will be tested on HTRLLAP in the second week of school. **Book with annotations due first day of school.**

Assignment for book 2: Actually read the book; you'll like it; it's really good. Read and then complete the following assignments. Do not buy the study guide that accompanies the book; you are welcome to read that, but our discussion will be over the actual text. I have included a video that gives you five reasons on why you should read *Mere Christianity* [here](#) and a link [here](#) for the audiobook if you would like to listen to it as you read and annotate. As I still encourage you to annotate like I stated above with Foster, I will not collect this book for annotations. However, you will be required to complete an analysis sheet linked [here](#). Just go to File and Make a Copy to type on the Google Doc. You will compose a one-sentence reflection mimicking a thesis statement for each chapter. Think what the overall meaning of this chapter is and what is Lewis trying to address as a whole with this particular chapter. I have also included a link to a YouTube

channel that doodles each of the chapters. After you have read and annotated, I encourage you to watch those. It will give you a visual representation of the overview of the chapter. [C.S. Lewis Doodles](#)

KEEP IN MIND that *this assignment will be submitted to Turnitin* and will be compared against everything on the internet AND any other submissions from other students that I receive. I would advise you to avoid “collaborating” with peers at all costs. Assignments with more than five percent plagiarism will earn a zero. **This assignment is due by the first day of class.**

Assignment 3: Poetry is a big part of the AP Literature & Composition course. We will be tackling many poets and poems this year. To get you started on the poems we will be analyzing this year, read and annotate *How to Read Poetry Like a Professor*. You will annotate this Foster text the exact same way you annotated for assignment number one. As you read, **highlight and annotate** (add explanatory notes in the margins) each chapter. I will look for a minimum of **5-7 highlights per chapter** that are focusing on Foster’s main idea for that chapter and a **minimum of 2-3 explanatory notes** in the margins for each chapter. You will be tested on HTRPLAP in the third week of school. Essentially, just like Foster’s HTRLLAP, these two texts will serve as textbooks for the course. We will refer to them all year long. **Book with annotations due first day of school.**

Assignment 4: You are choosing from these books because they are in the top 20 most referenced pieces of literature of all time for the AP Lit exam. Choose wisely something that interests you as you very well may end up writing on it for the actual exam. First, complete a reading journal (I encourage a composition book-as we will add to it for every book we read throughout the year. It will serve as a study guide for you at the end of the year) as you read the text. You can use bullet points for each of the items in the reading journal. Just make sure that they are in complete sentences. The following items should be addressed: who is the author and what literary movement did he or she write in, the significance of the title, setting, a brief synopsis of the main characters, 6-8 major plot points of the novel, five significant quotes from the text that you feel could be used as good evidence in an essay, and the overall theme or message of the text. Then, use Foster’s book H.T.R.L.L.A.P. to analyze what is happening in your choice book. From a “professor’s standpoint,” what is your author trying to accomplish/say/illustrate/prove AND how is he going about it? Connect 3 chapters from H.T.R.L.L.A.P. to your choice book and correlate Foster’s points with evidence from your text. This DOES NOT need to be an essay. A well-developed paragraph on each of the three chapters with clear textual connections should suffice. Remember, you are trying to prove that you read, understood, analyzed BOTH texts and that you can apply one to another. **Your reading journal will be due first day of class.**

Annotation link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-zJksh9KGil>

If you are unsure of how to annotate a text, click the following link for a brief overview. You can also search the term “annotation” and find thousands of more detailed explanations.