



AP LITERATURE ENGLISH IV SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

Students enrolled in AP Literature English IV must read two books.

Book #1:

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

Book #2:

1. Choose **any book** that you have not previously read and read it.
 - a. In choosing, you should follow these requirements:
 - i. The novel is a paperback or hardcover edition, not electronic;
 - ii. The novel is at least 200 pages long;
 - iii. The novel has received critical acclaim.
2. Annotate as you see fit in anticipation of a writing task the first week of school.
3. Bring your annotated book to class on the first day of school.

Good places, though not exhaustive places, to look for novels that receive *critical acclaim* would be the lists of novels that have won one of the awards below, or a comparable national or international award, or has been shortlisted for a comparable award:

- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| ● Pulitzer Prize | ● Nebula Award | ● Women's Prize for Fiction |
| ● Man Booker Prize | ● National Book Award | ● Neustadt International Prize for Literature |
| ● Orange Prize | ● Pen/Faulkner Award | ● ALA Award |
| ● Hugo Award | ● National Book Critics Circle | ● Nobel Prize for Literature |

We encourage you to choose a book you are comfortable with and to have conversations at home, students and parents, about your selection. To this end, if you begin a book over the summer, but feel that you cannot finish it for whatever reason, then simply choose another book and begin again.

Exceptions:

If you are a new student to Boerne ISD and cannot complete the summer reading before the first day of school, teachers will make reasonable accommodations so that you may finish the reading and complete all assignments associated with it.

If students are enrolled in Dual Credit English courses through Angelo State University, it is the student's responsibility to verify course requirements with their Angelo State University professor.

Questions:

Any questions regarding the summer reading assignment should be directed to Chris Prince, the Secondary Reading Language Arts Coordinator, via email at: chris.prince@boerneisd.net

Enjoy your summer reading!



Reading Matters

Welcome to *AP Literature and Composition*! To prepare for the rigor of this class and the AP exam, summer reading is essential—not as a hoop to jump through, but as a powerful tool for your success. By the time you take the AP test next May, you will need to have read at least 8 critically acclaimed novels, so this is a great time to get ahead.

Choose Books You Love

You will gain the most from reading when you're engaged with the story. Look for critically acclaimed works that resonate with you, but also push your thinking. Choose carefully—your summer book will be with you throughout the year in discussions, writing prompts, and literary connections.

Build Reading Stamina and Speed

AP Literature asks you to read complex works efficiently. The more you read now, the faster and more confidently you'll handle dense or unfamiliar texts during the school year and on the AP exam. Improving your speed, comprehension, and stamina will be a benefit in college as well, where you will be asked to read between 100-300 pages per week in your freshman year general education courses.

Strengthen Literary Analysis Skills

Each great novel you read introduces you to new themes, symbols, character arcs, and authorial choices. The AP exam expects you to recognize and interpret these elements fluently—and that only comes with practice.

Prepare for the Literary Argument (FRO 3)

On the AP test, you'll be asked to write a literary argument essay about a novel of your choice. The more quality books you've read, the more options you'll have. Familiarity with multiple critically acclaimed texts gives you flexibility and confidence on exam day.

Reading is the foundation of success in AP Literature. Whether you're lying in a hammock, traveling, or hanging out between summer jobs, bring a book that speaks to you—and know that every page is helping prepare you for an exceptional year ahead.