

Welcome to AP Literature & Composition: This summer assignment is designed to build the reading habits and analytical skills you'll use in the course.

Part I: Nonfiction Study

Required Text: *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*, Second Edition (Thomas C. Foster)

- Read the entire text carefully.
 - Take notes. BY HAND. Neat, organized work that you can reference during class. Choose one of the following:
 - Write five bullet points per chapter identifying key concepts, supported by specific examples from the text, **OR**
 - Complete the companion note sheets, which are available as a PDF on the EHS website.
- Your handwritten notes should demonstrate your understanding of Foster's key ideas (i.e. patterns, symbols, intertextuality) and include your own examples and questions. Notes will be collected and graded on the first day of class.*

Resources:

- The **text PDF** and **companion note sheets** are on the EHS website. Use the second edition of the text to ensure we are all working from the same material.

Expectations for Notes:

- Thoughtful, complete responses (not one-word answers).
- Clear connections to literature you've previously read and/or are reading this summer.

Part II: Independent Reading. Read ONE work of fiction this summer.

Guidelines:

- Your book may be of any genre or length, as long as it's fiction and the appropriate reading level.
- Choose something you want to read.

Annotation Requirements: As you read, **annotate the text** using concepts from *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*. Look for and mark:

- Patterns, symbols, and motifs
- Character journeys and archetypes
- Setting as symbolism
- Intertextual connections
- Moments that raise questions or seem especially meaningful

Annotations may include:

- Margin notes
- Sticky notes
- A separate annotation log referencing page numbers from the text

Focus on **quality, not quantity**—your notes should show active thinking and application of Foster's ideas.

After Summer Break This work will support class discussions, assessments, and analytical writing. Be prepared to:

- Use your companion notes during discussions and activities
- Discuss and write about your independent reading
- Apply Foster's concepts to short texts we analyze together

Academic Integrity This work should reflect **your own reading and thinking**. Avoid summaries or analysis taken from external sources. Your ideas and questions matter most.

Questions? If you have questions over the summer, write them down—we'll address them when class begins. Have a restful, productive summer, and happy reading!

Required Reading: Please look for the revised edition of this book. There is also a PDF version on the Eastlake Summer Homework website.

Foster, Thomas C. *How to Read Literature Like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines*. Revised ed., Harper Perennial, 2014.

Below is a list of the Top 50 Most Frequently Appearing AP Literature books. Several of these we read in class, so please skip those titles. You should also skip any books you read in English 11. Choosing new texts will help broaden your reading experience and strengthen your literary understanding, analytical depth, and writing skills.

Tragedy & Classical Drama • Antigone — Sophocles (<i>skip; read in class</i>) • Oedipus Rex — Sophocles • King Lear — William Shakespeare • Othello — William Shakespeare Drama (Modern & Realist / Absurdist) • A Doll's House — Henrik Ibsen • Death of a Salesman — Arthur Miller • The Crucible — Arthur Miller (<i>ELAII</i>) • The Glass Menagerie — Tennessee Williams • A Raisin in the Sun — Lorraine Hansberry • Waiting for Godot — Samuel Beckett • Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead — Tom Stoppard Romanticism & Gothic • Wuthering Heights — Emily Brontë • Jane Eyre — Charlotte Brontë Victorian Literature • Great Expectations — Charles Dickens • Jude the Obscure — Thomas Hardy • The Mayor of Casterbridge — Thomas Hardy • Tess of the d'Urbervilles — Thomas Hardy • The Scarlet Letter — Nathaniel Hawthorne Realism & Naturalism • Madame Bovary — Gustave Flaubert • Anna Karenina — Leo Tolstoy • Crime and Punishment — Fyodor Dostoevsky • Ethan Frome — Edith Wharton • The Awakening — Kate Chopin • The Jungle — Upton Sinclair • The Grapes of Wrath — John Steinbeck Modernism • Heart of Darkness — Joseph Conrad	• The Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man — James Joyce • Light in August — William Faulkner • As I Lay Dying — William Faulkner • The Great Gatsby — F. Scott Fitzgerald (<i>ELAII</i>) • The Portrait of a Lady — Henry James • A Passage to India — E. M. Forster Postmodernism & Satire • Catch-22 — Joseph Heller • Candide — Voltaire American Literature (19th Century) • The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn — Mark Twain • Moby-Dick — Herman Melville • Billy Budd — Herman Melville African American Literature • Invisible Man — Ralph Ellison • Native Son — Richard Wright • Beloved — Toni Morrison • Song of Solomon — Toni Morrison • Sula — Toni Morrison • The Color Purple — Alice Walker • Their Eyes Were Watching God — Zora Neale Hurston (<i>skip; read in class</i>) Global Literature • Cry, the Beloved Country — Alan Paton • Ceremony — Leslie Marmon Silko • Bless Me, Ultima — Rudolfo Anaya Political / Social Novels • All the King's Men — Robert Penn Warren Contemporary & Late 20th-Century Literature • All the Pretty Horses — Cormac McCarthy
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