

AP Literature Summer Reading – 2018 – How to Read Like a Professor

“Reading is the sole means by which we slip, involuntarily, often helplessly, into another’s skin, another’s voice, another’s soul.”

— Joyce Carol Oates

“To be stories at all they must be a series of events: but it must be understood that this series - the plot, as we call it - is only really a new whereby to catch something else.”

---C.S. Lewis

Welcome to Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition and the opportunity to explore great literature! As students in an advanced placement course, much will be expected from you including, but not limited to, integrity, dedication, and diligence. With that in mind, we will begin our journey with:

Required Summer Readings

1. *Beloved* by Toni Morrison or *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison
2. *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Dr. Thomas C. Foster (ISBN 978-0-06-000942-7)

This book, used in many entry level college literature courses and many AP Lit courses around the world, is clear, concise, and extremely witty. We will reference this work throughout *the entire year*, so a clear, working knowledge of the concepts in this book will be *crucial* to your success both in this course and on the AP test.

3. A “re-reading” of one or two of the following works:
 - a. *Oedipus Rex & Antigone* by Sophocles (10)
 - b. *Animal Farm* by George Orwell (9)
 - c. *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury (11)
 - d. *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe (10)
 - e. *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding (10)
 - f. *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald (11)
 - g. *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller (11)
 - h. *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller (11)
 - i. Many of these works were read, discussed, and analyzed in a previous course. Hence, you do not *necessarily* need to *reread* an entire novel, nor do you need to have read ALL of the above works. However, you need to be able to recall a few of these works well enough to complete your summer reading assignment and participate in a discussion that references these works.

AP Literature Summer Reading Assignment

After reading *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* in its *entirety*:

1. Select **5 different** chapters from *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*.
2. Select one or two novels from the re-reading list above.
3. For each chapter you’ve selected from *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* you will type a clear, concise paragraph connecting the information from that chapter to one of your selected re-reading works.
 - a) For example, if you choose to connect Chapter 11 “...More Than It’s Gonna Hurt You: Concerning Violence” with Golding’s *Lord of the Flies*, you will discuss how the violence in *Lord of the Flies* is illustrative of the concepts in Chapter 11. Using direct quotes from *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* in your paragraphs is *required*. Make sure you use proper MLA format for your in text citations. Using direct quotes from your “re-reading novel” is helpful and may bolster your ideas, but it is not required since you may no longer have access to the novel itself.
 - b) You do *not* have to use the same novel for all connections, but you may. Do not use more than two.
 - c) For each of your paragraphs, make sure you have a clear header that indicates the chapter from *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* with which you are comparing your novel. It is very helpful if you organize your paragraphs in numerical order according to the chapter numbers in *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*.

Your assignment should be typed, well organized, and in MLA Format. **It MUST be printed and it is due the first day of school.**