

## AP English Literature and Composition Summer Assignment 2021

1. Join the AP English Literature and Composition Google Classroom: ojxtt42
  
2. **Pick TWO books from an AP Literature recommended reading list.** You are required to take the AR quizzes, so the books must be Accelerated Reader books. The AR website will be available over the summer and you can access the website through Google classroom. A book talk and a written assignment will be assigned the first week of school. For students interested in participating in the SCISA High School Battle of the Books, I have uploaded the list to Google Classroom.
  
3. Read the assigned chapters in *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster. I have included a link to a digital copy of the text in Google Classroom. Answer the questions and complete the writing prompts for each assigned chapter. Be prepared to use your responses in class during the first week of school.

Chapter	Writing Prompts
Introduction	Define the “language of reading.” What is the key to recognizing conventions in literature? What separates the professional reader from the rest of the crowd? Has there ever been a time when your appreciation of a literary work was enhanced by understanding symbol or pattern?
Chapter 3: Nice to Eat You: Acts of Vampires	What are the essentials of the vampire story? Apply this to a literary work you have read or a film you have viewed.
Chapter 4: If It’s Square, It’s a Sonnet	Select three sonnets and identify which form they are. Discuss how their content reflects the form.
Chapter 10: It’s More Than Just Rain or Snow	What could rain signify within literature? Discuss the importance of weather in a specific literary work, not in terms of plot.
Chapter 11 ...More Than It’s Gonna Hurt You: Concerning Violence	Present examples of the two kinds of violence found in literature (including film). Show how the effects are different. What are some of the reasons that writers kill off their characters?
Chapter 13: It’s All Political	Assume that Foster is right and “it is all political.” Apply this to a literary work you have read or a film you have viewed.
Chapter 19: Geography Matters...	What is literary geography? What does geography mean to a work of literature? What’s the general rule for when a character goes south?
Chapter 20: ...So Does Season	What are some examples of the literary significance of each season?

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Chapter 22: He's Blind for a Reason, You Know	Find a story or film that prominently features a blind character. Based on your example, do you find Foster's statements true or false? Explain.
Chapter 24: ...And Rarely Just Illness	Recall two characters that died of a disease in a literary work or a film. Consider how these deaths reflect the "principles governing the use of disease in literature" (215-217). Discuss the effectiveness of the death as related to plot, theme, or symbolism.
Chapter 25: Don't Read with Your Eyes	What does Foster mean when he states, "don't read with your eyes"? Choose a scene or episode from a novel, play or epic written before the twentieth century. Contrast how it could be viewed by a reader from the twenty-first century with how it might be viewed by a contemporary reader. Focus on specific assumptions that the author makes, assumptions that would not make it in this century.
Chapter 26: Is He Serious? And Other Ironies	What trumps everything in literature? Define ironic mode? Select an ironic literary work or film and explain how the irony "provides additional richness to the literary dish" (244).