

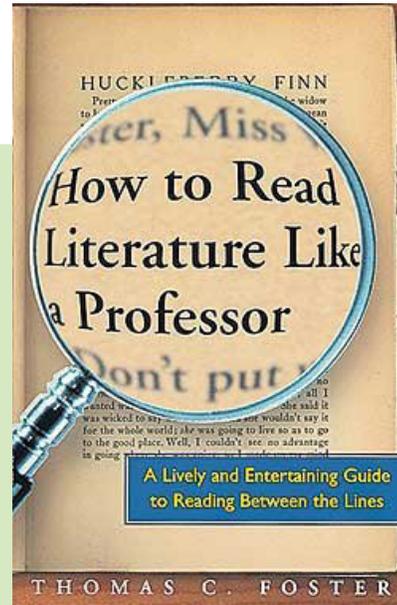
SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS

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Yes, you read that correctly, "Summer Assignments." Plural. Note that it doesn't say "Summer READING Assignments." There is writing involved.

In an effort to keep you active as readers, broaden your horizons, and forestall summer brain death, I have selected several texts and related assignments that you might find enjoyable and beneficial. Within this document, you will find several suggestions for completing this work... not the least of which is a recommended sequence.

The primary "suggestion" is this: **do not, do not, DO NOT wait until the weekend before it is due to begin this work. Should you do so, your regret will be of a magnitude without parallel in the universe. Trust me on this.**



This is where you'll begin your summer reading after you've read "How to Mark a Book."

How to Read Literature Like a Professor by Thomas Foster

Thomas Foster knows "how to read literature like a professor" because he IS a professor of English at the University of Michigan.

In a very informal style (this is not a textbook), Foster focuses on literary basics: major themes and motifs, literary models, and narrative devices ... all of which will be oh! so helpful as we study various texts throughout the school year

ahead.

Some of what you read will be familiar to you, and some of it will be new and provide "food for thought" as you read your summer novel.

As you read, you should annotate (see the article "How to Mark a Book"), and might consider taking notes as well.

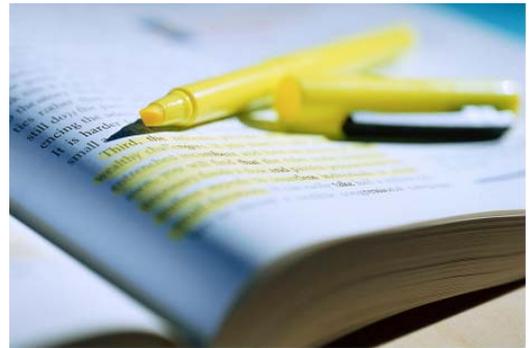
LET'S GO SHOPPING

Here is the information for the titles you will need. All titles are available at Amazon.com or any major bookstore.

How to Read Literature Like a Professor by Thomas Foster

Purchase your book of choice (see below)

"How to Mark a Book" by Mortimer Adler, Ph.D (available on the class website)



You'll want to have highlighters and pens to help develop an annotation system that works for you.

"How to Mark a Book" by Mortimer Adler, Ph.D.

This is where you must **BEGIN** your summer assignments.

Go to our class webpage at meyerenglishwiki.wikispaces.com and read Dr. Adler's essay, "How to Mark a Book." Formally, we call this "annotation," and it is not

only recommended it is REQUIRED. That being said, marking a book is certainly an activity that is personal and unique to you as an individual. It is important that you create a system that works well for you ~ consider the pos-

sibilities of highlighters, colored pens or pencils, and post-it notes as some of your options. Your personal bookmarking system will develop over time.

Novel of choice

Visit the class webpage (meyerenglishwiki.wikispaces.com) and find the page AP Lang and Comp Summer Titles. There, you will find a list of novels for you to choose from. I have provided the title, author's last name, and a brief summary for each book. Choose one that speaks to you.

As you read, use a highlighter and/or post-it notes to annotate the texts, paying

particular attention to passages you feel illustrate the increasing awareness or self-awareness of the authors. Also, be prepared to explain and discuss the style of the author. Include in your analysis/notes the techniques by which he or she achieved diction, syntax, imagery, and tone.

What will you need to do? Write a blog explaining what

you thought of the book you read. Yes, this is a review, but you should incorporate elements of analysis into your blog. This includes important topics/questions to consider, favorite passages, etc. It's your job to prove to me that you've read the book, not make me suspect that you haven't. In addition, tell the blogosphere(me) a little about who you are and what makes you unique.

What's the name of the website again?

Meyerenglishwiki.wikispaces.com

Assignment #1 Engaging with the text

Complete the assignments for *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*. You will find these on the class website.

The assignments are broken down by chapter and ask you to apply each chapter of Foster's book to something you have already read.

So, think about the books you have read (not necessarily just your novel of choice) and apply what you know of them to Foster's ideas. This is wonderful practice engaging and using your prior knowledge to dig deeper into a text.

Assignment #3: Newspaper/ Magazine/ Editorial Assignment

The focus of the AP Language and Composition course is on understanding, analyzing, and writing non-fiction prose.

This assignment gives you practice in reading and responding to essays and arguments.

You will post these responses on your blog!

I will check your blogs the first week of class.

Over the summer, read at least five editorials or commentaries / essays (not news articles or informational features) from reputable newspapers or issues-based magazines (you should mix-and-match, using at least two different sources). Examples of suggested newspapers/magazines:

The Globe and Mail (newspaper) The National Post (newspaper)
 The New York Times (newspaper) The Washington Post (newspaper)
 The New Yorker (magazine) Atlantic Monthly (magazine)
 Harper's (magazine)
 The Economist (magazine)

Then, on your blog, comment on the aspects of each of the editorials that made you think, and your thoughts on the issues discussed – one response per editorial. There is no guideline as to length, but your responses should be thoughtful and detailed.

Some questions you might want to think about:

Do you agree or disagree with the editorial's viewpoints?

Why?

Did the editorial make you want to know more about the issue?

What are some of the author's best arguments? What makes them good?

Which arguments or points made by the author do not make sense to you and why?

Assignment #2: The Blog!

You will be using Blogger (www.blogger.com) to create your own personal blog. This blog serves as a space for you to journal, respond to reading materials, and keep a reading log throughout the course of AP Language and Composition.

Some guidelines for setting up your blog:

You **must** create your blog using your Hoban gmail account **only**.

Content and language **must** remain school appropriate.

"We read fine things but never feel them to the full until we have gone the same steps as the author!"

-John Keats

