

AP Literature & Composition  
Summer 2018 Assignment

Your *summer reading assignment* is the first step in the year long commitment you make to both yourself and your future in order to gain not only college credit, but a profound understanding of the written word. Your written assignment is due Thursday, September 6th. All parts are to be fully completed and all requirements must be adhered to. Procrastinating will be your greatest enemy...you will not be successful should you complete this assignment at the last minute. Any plagiarism, copying, or cheating on your summer reading assignment will result in a zero for the assignment. Your honor, integrity, and character are your most valuable assets- protect and cherish them accordingly.

Materials Needed:

Novel # 1: *How to Read Literature Like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines* by Thomas C. Foster (**Revised Edition: red, white, and brown cover**)

Novel #2: *The Turn of the Screw* by Henry James

One spiral notebook: On the outside cover place your first and last name. Under this, write AP Literature 2018 Summer Assignment.

**Part One:**

Concept: Read and acquire the skills necessary to analyze and profoundly understand a major literary work.

Literary work to be used for this concept: *How to Read Literature Like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines* by Thomas C. Foster

Assignment: Read the chapters listed below. After every few chapters, you will answer the Reflection Question that pertains to them. On the first page of your spiral notebook, title it Thomas Foster Reflection Questions. Label each question as Reflection Question# 1, Reflection Question # 2, etc. and write each question down before you answer it. Each Reflection question must be 1 page or more in length (no less). I am looking for highly critical thinking in these responses, NOT "How much can I write so that I can fill the length requirement?" In addition, select one or two quotes per chapter that you think are the most important quotes for that particular chapter with one sentence explaining why. **No typed Reflection Questions or quotes will be accepted.**

**Read: Introduction, Chapter 1, Chapter 2, Chapter 3, Chapter 4, Chapter 5**

Reflection Question 1) How is this similar to or different from the way you have previously read works? What insight have you gained so far from learning how to understand texts with this style of reading? Looking back on your high school career, how can you apply this method to works you have read previously? Explain.

**Read: Chapter 6, Chapter 7, Chapter 8, Chapter 9, Chapter 10, Interlude, Chapter 11, Chapter 12**

Reflection Question 2) Do you think authors think about this kind of allusion, symbolism, and understanding of characters when they write? If they do, how does that change the way we should read? If they don't, but the connections are still there, then how does that change how we should read?

**Read: Chapter 13, Chapter 14, Chapter 15, Chapter 16, Chapter 17, Chapter 18, Chapter 19, Chapter 20**

Reflection Question 3) Define intertextuality. How does what Foster discusses fit into your old literary definitions of "setting" and "plot"? How can details such as these affect/change/shape/inform/ a story? How do we read culturally, or for greater understanding of the human condition? Why do we read for a greater understanding of the human condition? When do you know you're going too far and making stuff up?

**Read: Chapter 21, Chapter 22, Chapter 23, Chapter 24, Chapter 25, Chapter 26**

Reflection Question 4) Define archetype. If irony is to twist the reader's expectations and have what occurs be the opposite of what is expected, and if it trumps everything, and if Foster kept referencing it all through the book, why write about it last? Describe what a great writer does. Describe what a great reader does.

**Part Two:**

Concept: Apply your newly gained skills from Foster's book by responding and connecting to various literary techniques addressed in the chapters of *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*.

Assignment:

1) Read *The Turn of the Screw* by Henry James, paying careful attention to how knowledge from HRLLP can be applied to analyzing and understanding this novel.

2) Create a three column textual analysis chart. In column one, select a quote from *The Turn of the Screw*. In the second column, select a quote (or two) from *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* that gives insight into analyzing the meaning of that quote from *The Turn of the Screw*.

In the third column, analyze what that information from HRLLP illuminates about the deeper meaning of the quote from *The Turn of the Screw* (four-six sentences minimum). The chart must have ten entries (be careful to select some from the beginning, middle and end to demonstrate that you have read and understood the entire book). Include the page number of the quote.

Please email me at [scorlew@lasalleinstitute.org](mailto:scorlew@lasalleinstitute.org) if you have any questions!