

Over the course of the next school year, we will be working to prepare for the AP Literature and Composition exam; however, some of you will be taking this course in First Semester, some in Second Semester. Part of your preparation will occur this summer with all AP12 students (no matter which semester!) completing and submitting Assignment #1 no later than Tuesday, September 4 in the front office (in a box labeled “AP English 12 Required Summer Assignment #1”). You will then be required to complete Assignments #2, #3, and #4 to submit in the first class meeting of your semester course. I will not accept these assignments late! Be prepared to write on Assignment #2.

Assignment #1:

(Again, due from ALL AP 12 students—regardless of semester—no later than Tuesday, September 4 in the front office (in a box labeled “AP 12 Required Summer Assignment #1” →available at Open House)

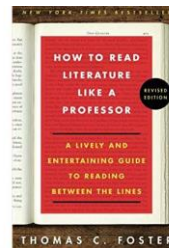
*Download, print, and complete the handout entitled “Cornell Notes ...” (available on the AP Required Reading & Assignments link on the GHS Webpage after 6/15) on this book:

***How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster**

→Read introduction and selected chapters as assigned on handout.*

You are responsible for obtaining your own copy of this book, which will be an excellent one to own for all future endeavors in reading literature.

Amazon offers this paperback *new* for \$10.87.



Assignment #2:

Choose one of these novels to read in its entirety—due the first day of class in your assigned semester:

***Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley**

***1984* by George Orwell**

Assignment #3:

Read also in its entirety—due the first day of class in your assigned semester:

***Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston**

☺ Check out these books from me or Ms. Sharp now or the GHS Counseling Office during the summer.

→**As you read these two books, select 5 passages within each of them** to copy (include page #) into a 2-column passage journal (spiral notebook that you will keep throughout the course...you may continue in one from AP Eng11.) To the right of each passage, analyze the passage in either bulleted, well-written statements or 1-2 well-written paragraphs (your choice, but achieve some depth!). Concentrate on why the passage is significant and any/all of the following: contextual significance, literary element such as characterization, conflict, symbolism, irony, etc., narrative style and voice. Show me what you see! *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* should inspire you, by the way. (A general example will be available online along with the Cornell Notes handout after 6/15.)

*I cannot overemphasize the value of tagging your novel with brief notes—post-its—as you read; I’m sure you know this already, but nothing helps more in discussion than this excellent practice. Please do yourself this favor as a reader!

Your AP 12 Passage Journal with the first 10 entries (again, 5 per novel) will be due on the first day of your semester class. All work **must** be from **your** thought-filled mind! No assistance whatsoever!

And one more thing...please turn this sheet over...

Assignment #4:

A *useful* writing assignment—for you and for me! Compose one formal personal essay to bring to class on the first day. I will consider it a rough draft—a clean-as-you-can-get-it typed rough draft—which you will revise after I read it to see your personal writing style and offer some instruction.

Topics for Your Assigned Semester

First Semester: Compose your college application essay (these are personal essays) for your first-choice school or your favorite Common Application topic (online). Use only the topic(s) and length/word count prescribed to you, the applicant, by the document. Be real and present; think about your professional but authentic voice and concerns. If you go over the prescribed word count (within reason), don't worry; that is just one more thing we will revise.

Second Semester: Compose personal essay in which you define yourself as a reader and thinker. Describe accurately and honestly your life as a reader thus far. What pieces of literature have spoken to you recently or even throughout childhood? Why? What forces in your life so far have made you want to acquaint yourself with books? When your formal education concludes, what do you predict your relationship with books and literature will be? Honesty, detailed thought—even humor at times—should prevail in this essay.

I look forward to meeting you, reading with you, reading your writings, discussing great literature with you, overseeing your SIRS (ah...there it is! ...the summer rumor has always been just that—a rumor), and assisting you through your final year of high school. Let's get started!

*"...I was alive and I waited for this...
Right here, right now
there is no other place I want to be."
--Jesus Jones*

