



Antelope High School
AP English Literature and Composition
Summer Reading 2016-2017

Robert Moreno- rmoreno@rjuhsd.us

Congratulations on making it to your senior year and for being enrolled in AP English Literature and Composition! As you know, AP English is designed to be a *college/university level course*, thus the “AP” designation on a transcript rather than “H” (Honors) or “CP” (College Prep). *This course will provide you with the intellectual challenges and workload consistent with a typical undergraduate university English literature course.* As a culmination of the course, you will take the AP English Literature and Composition Exam given in May (required).

Summer Assignment

Every student will read Thomas C. Foster’s *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* in addition to one other AP novel. Foster’s work will help you understand how to approach a novel more effectively, while the novel will expand your literary arsenal in preparation for the AP exam.

Part ONE: THE NOVEL

- I. Read **one** novel from the following list of five:
 - i. *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe
 - ii. *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad
 - iii. *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte
 - iv. *Othello* by William Shakespeare
 - v. *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini

Before reading your selected novel, make sure to have *at least* read Chapter 21 from Foster’s book.

- II. While reading you should annotate the entire novel:

Specified AP Book Annotation Requirements

It is not required that you buy the books, but it is VERY helpful; margin notes are a necessity when studying passages. Of course, you may borrow them from the public library or you may check them out from the Antelope High School English Department. If you do not wish to purchase the texts, you must use post-it notes for your annotations.

Annotating Texts

ANNOTATING simply means marking the page as you read with comments or notes. The principle reason you should annotate your books is to aid in understanding. When important passages occur, mark them so that they can be easily located when it comes time to write an essay or respond to the text. Marking key ideas will enable you to discuss the reading with more support, evidence, and proof than if you rely on memory.

How to Annotate Your Texts

- **Highlight** or **underline** important passages, words, or descriptions. Items that seem unique and deliberate
- Connecting ideas with **lines** or **arrows**
- **Bracket []** Literary elements (symbolism, theme, foreshadowing, etc.), Figurative language (similes, metaphors, personification, etc.), Diction (effective or unusual word choice), Syntax (order of words, phrases, or sentences; punctuation)
- **Highlight** or **underline** new characters when they are introduced
- **Keep a list of characters** with descriptions and page numbers where found inside the front cover of the book
- Write **notes in the margins** (your reaction to what happens, predictions, characterizations, questions you might have, etc.)
- Write a **brief summary at the end of each chapter**. Include the most important plot points. These can consist of bulleted points.

Note: Be as thorough as possible, but **avoid** highlighting or underlining **too much**. Use highlighting and underlining sparingly; highlighting and underlining *everything* tends to make notes useless, but systematic underlining of key phrases and ideas helps them to stand out when you want to find them.

Part TWO: THE TEXT

How to Read Literature Like a Professor by Thomas Foster

- I. Please read this text, while specifically annotating chapters 1, 10, 12, 19-21, in *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*. Yes, you should read the entire book, but these are the chapters you need to be very cognizant of. You will relate these chapters to the novel you choose to read (see “Part ONE”).
- II. In addition, you must read Katherine Mansfield’s short story “The Garden Party” in Chapter 27 of the book. Follow the five ground rules that are after the short story. Use the knowledge learned throughout the book to write a 2-3 page paper answering: What the story signifies and how does it signify it? Do NOT use outside sources for help. Test your own analytical skills here. There is no right or wrong answer as long as you back up your opinion. Have fun with it! Don’t forget to follow MLA guidelines.
- III. When you have finished the book **and** your novel, refer to the following chapters in *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* and **apply the following 6 chapters from Foster’s book to your selected novel:**
 - Chapter 1 – “Every Trip is a Quest”
 - Chapter 10 – “It’s More Than Just Rain or Snow”
 - Chapter 12 – “Is That a Symbol?”
 - Chapter 19 – “Geography Matters . . .”
 - Chapter 20 – “. . . So Does Season”
 - Chapter 21—“Marked for Greatness”

Respond by writing well-developed paragraphs that explain the main points Foster is making in these chapters and analyze how they apply to your selected novel (100 to 150 words for each chapter).

- a. Include at least two examples that show how the specific technique or idea discussed in Foster’s chapter is used in your novel.
 - i. This means that you will write **6 responses total**—(one for chapters 1,10,12,19,20, and 21) Each response will relate some concept from your chosen novel to the idea in the chapter.
 1. For Example: If my chosen novel was *Jane Eyre*, I might write my “Every Trip is a Quest” paragraph about her journey to a new household, relating her experiences to the observations I found in Foster’s work.
- b. Make sure to follow MLA guidelines.

JUST TO CLARIFY:

When you arrive on the first day of school, you will turn in:

- PART ONE: your complete annotated novel
- PART TWO (A): your 2-3 page typed analysis of “The Garden Party”
- PART TWO (B): your application analysis of your novel to Foster’s work (CH 1, 10, 12, 19, 20, 21).

Failure to complete the assignment or a failing grade on the assignment may result in your removal from the course.

There is no excuse for not completing the assignment—you have **TWO** months! In addition, be prepared for further application and assessment of this work in the first weeks of class!



****Note- This assignment must be submitted to the instructor by the end of the first week of school.**