

12th grade AP English Literature & Composition



Summer Reading Assignment

2022-2023



Congratulate yourself!!! You have chosen to challenge yourself with AP Literature. AP Literature is an opportunity to tackle and grapple with literature, get underneath the surface of a text and dig deep, explore the wealth of ideas an author is presenting, and walk away feeling profoundly moved, touched, or impacted by a text. The only way to broach such an endeavor is with an open mind, determination, and the desire to cultivate and strengthen your critical reading and thinking skills and enhance your writing abilities. AP Literature will ask more out of you than you realize, so you must come to class with purpose and resolve if you are to grow and possibly meet the demands of an AP course.

Summer work is essential to prepare yourself for the rigors and demands of AP work. This summer, I invite you on an adventure as we explore a work that will function as a platform for all the pieces of literature we study throughout the year.

You will be required to read two texts. Links to both books in e-text format are included below.

1. *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas Foster
<https://mseffie.com/assignments/professor/How%20to%20Read%20Literature%20like%20a%20Professor%201st.pdf>
2. *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman
http://biblioteka-np.org.rs/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Man-Called-Ove_-A-Novel-A-Fredrik-Backman.pdf

You are welcome to purchase hard copies of the books if you prefer,

Steps for Success

Step 1: Read *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* in its entirety, taking notes about the various chapters and the important points presented on each concept. A format for taking these notes is listed on the last page of this document. You can download it and type directly into it or print it and handwrite your ideas.

Step 2: Read *A Man Called Ove* taking notes on character development, setting development, structure of the text, narration style and word choice, and literary elements every 5 chapters. A format for taking these notes is listed on the last page of this document. You can download it and type directly into it or print it and handwrite your ideas.

Step 3: Respond to eight of the corresponding, attached discussion questions over *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*. These can be typed or hand-written, and you must apply the ideas of the eight questions you choose to the novel *A Man Called Ove*. Your answers should be lengthy and in-depth with cited evidence and an evaluation of the significance of the evidence.

Step 4: Come to class with your Summer Reading Assignment complete and any notes and annotations you took for the two texts.

Be prepared for an assessment over both books, including a timed writing assessment or objective test, the first week of class.

Step 1 Sample Guide for Note taking on *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster

<i>Chapter #</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Bold words/Italic words/Most important /points/concepts</i>
<i>1: “Every trip is a Quest (Except when it’s Not)”</i>		
<i>2: “Nice to eat with you: Acts of Communion”</i>		
<i>3: “Nice to eat You: Acts of Vampires”</i>		
<i>4: “If it’s Square, It’s a Sonnet”</i>		

Continue using this sample with the meaning chapters in the text.

Step 2 Sample Guide for Note taking on *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrick Backman

<i>Chapters 1-5</i>	<i>Summary of chapters and notations of Foster's ideas and concepts</i>
<i>Summary of the plot</i>	
<i>Character Development</i>	
<i>Setting Development</i>	
<i>Structure of the text</i>	
<i>Narrations Style and Word Choice</i>	
<i>Literary Elements</i>	

Continue using this sample with the meaning chapters in the text. Include the Epilogue in the final set of chapters (35-Epilogue).

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

Directions: As you read, respond to 8 of the following questions/prompts thoughtfully, applying the ideas to *Winesburg, Ohio*. Each response should be labeled with the coordinating chapter, written in complete sentences, and a minimum of 250 words in length per response.

Introduction: How'd He Do That?

How do memory, symbol, and pattern affect the reading of Literature? How does the recognition of patterns make it easier to read complicated literature? Discuss how understanding symbols or patterns has helped you appreciate your student choice novel.

Chapter 1 - Every Trip Is a Quest (Except When It's Not)

List the five aspects of the QUEST and then apply them to the text in the form used on page 8. (1-5 as shown on page 8)

Chapter 2 - Nice to Eat with You: Acts of Communion

Choose a meal from one of the chapters and apply the ideas of Chapter 2 to this literary depiction.

Chapter 3 - Nice to Eat You: Acts of Vampires

What are the essentials of the Vampire story? Apply this to the novel.

Chapter 5 - Now, Where Have I Seen Her Before?

Define intertextuality. Discuss three examples that have helped you in reading your novel.

Chapter 8 - Hanseldee and Greteldum

Think of how one of the character's stories in the novel reflects a fairy tale. Discuss the parallels. Does it create irony or deepen appreciation?

Chapter 10- It's More Than Just Rain or Snow

Discuss the importance or significance of weather in the novel, 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 the novel. Show how the effects are different.

Chapter 14 - Yes, She's a Christ Figure, Too

Apply the criteria on pages 66-67 to a character in the novel. Try to choose a character that will have many matches.

Chapter 15 - Flights of Fancy

Explain how flight signifies escape or freedom in the novel. Explain in detail.

Chapter 18 - If She Comes Up, It's Baptism

Think of a "baptism scene" from the novel. How was the character different after the experience? Discuss.

Chapter 19 - Geography Matters...

Discuss at least three different aspects of the novel that Foster would classify under "geography."

Chapter 21 - Marked for Greatness

Select a character with a physical imperfection from the novel and analyze its implications for characterization.

Chapter 23 - It's Never Just Heart Disease... & Chapter 24 - ...And Rarely Just Illness

Select a character who is dying or dies of disease in the novel. Consider how these deaths reflect the "principles governing the use of disease in literature" (page 114). Discuss the effectiveness of the death as related to plot, theme, or symbolism.

Chapter 25 - Don't Read with Your Eyes After reading

Choose a scene or episode from the novel. What information is needed by the reader to fully understand the nuances of the text. What specific assumptions does the author make of his readers?

Chapter 26 - Is He Serious? And Other Ironies

Explain the irony presented in the novel.

Good luck with your endeavors this summer.

Suggestions for time management...

1. Break down the two books into weeks over June and July. Assign yourself a set number of chapters to complete each week and stick to it.
2. Build-in blocks of time during the week (examples...2 hours on Monday morning and 2 hours on Wednesday morning) to complete the work you have designated for that week.
3. If you are working digitally, back up your files to either Google Drive or OneDrive, so you do not lose your work at the last minute.
4. Use long car rides or plane rides of a vacation to complete work for a week so you can enjoy your vacation time without the stress of work hanging over your head.
5. When you have a concern or question, email me. You must advocate for yourself, and part of that is using your voice. I am available to help and will respond as quickly as possible. Vanessa.sells@polk-fl.net
6. Take time to breathe and enjoy the summer. While prepping and doing foundational work is essential, so is your mental health.

