

Summer Reading Assignments: AP Literature 2017-2018

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

Foster's text introduces us to literary analysis in a lively, engaging manner. Your interaction with this text, accompanied by thoughtful responses to the accompanying questions, prepares you for the complex literature found in an AP or college-level English course. Although ostensibly simple, this assignment lays the foundation for more sophisticated assignments in the course

Here's the following online link to the complete text

- A. <http://ziveuniverzity.sk/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Foster-How-to-Read-Literature-Like-a-Professor.pdf>
- B. Study Guide Questions: Please type questions and answers. Use complete sentences in your responses and cite information with page numbers placed in parentheses following the response.
<https://d3jc3ahdjad7x7.cloudfront.net/LIY8cHr1JvjXaO5XK4GG61BSwoXlczMrDBFXSSApge0Fqb5z.pdf>

*****You also have the option of purchasing the hard copy of the text. If you do, please buy the 2003 edition which corresponds to the study guide questions given.*****

2. Book Lists

Now that you've read Foster's book, let's use what you've learned to read **ONE** of the following literary classics.

If your last name begins with a letter from A-M, please select **ONE** of the following books:

- Ken Kesey – *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*
- Toni Morrison – *Song of Solomon*

If your last name begins with a letter from N-Z, please select **ONE** of the following books:

- William Faulkner – *The Sound and the Fury*
- Cormac McCarthy – *All the Pretty Horses*

3. Summer Reading Journal Assignment for Your Chosen Novel

- You will write several journal entries.
- Please use MLA format.
- Type each entry using size 12 Times New Roman font.
- Complete the work **as** you read.

Please do not wait until the last minute to complete the work. It is most easily completed and most beneficial **as** you read the text.

The Journal:

You will keep a journal of your reading. Follow this process:

1. Divide your novel into 3 sections and write a journal entry over each section.
2. The reading journals will be set up in the following manner;

MLA heading

For each section of the novel complete A-D

- A. Title and author of the novel.
- B. List the pages covered in the section.
- C. Summarize the plot of the section in 8-15 sentences.
- D. Analyze the reading at a deeper level. This means read between the lines. You must discuss the following topics:

- Characters and conflicts-describe and analyze the actions and thoughts of the protagonist (s) and antagonists. What are their strengths? Flaws? How are they changing and/or developing? Describe the main conflicts in the section. Explain them in terms of man vs. man, man vs. himself, man vs. nature, and man vs. society.
- Theme: What is the point of this book/play as you see it in this section? Explain and support your ideas.
- Explain the tone the author used during the novel. (This may change throughout the novel)
- Symbols: Describe and explain symbols that are present (both obvious and subtle).

Complete E and F for the novel as a whole.

E. In section E, you must use at least five quotes directly from the novel to support particular thoughts you have about the novel. Chose quotes that you think add meaning to the novel. After listing the quote, put the page number you found the quote on like so, “It was a pleasure to burn.” (1) Write your analysis in paragraph form so that it isn’t broken up. Look deeper into your novel than just the who, what, where, when and how. Look for the why!

F. Personal reaction: Write your personal feelings about this book. Do you like it? Why or why not? It is not good enough to say that you like the book. The why is more important. This should be a lengthy section, like section E, since your book, if well chosen, should offer much “food for thought”. By taking a personal interest in the novel, you increase your chances of liking it and getting more meaning out of it.

4. Allusions Assignment

Now that you have read Foster’s book for help with reading complex literary text, and now that you’ve read your chosen text and written three journal entries, you are now going to learn about allusions and how they deepen our understanding of literary texts.

What are allusions? They are famous references used by authors for increased depth, texture and complexity in a literary work. As Foster tells us in *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*, background knowledge (allusions) can enhance our understanding of a work and deepen our written analysis of the particular work.

Your assignment will then be to take **FIVE** allusions in total, spanning at least three of the categories, and apply them to the novel that you’ve chosen according to the first letter of your last name.

- Name the allusion
- Define the allusion as well as citing the source for your definition
- Explain where and how it shows up in your novel of choice
- Analyze how an understanding of that allusion deepens your understanding of the meaning of the work as a whole

Here is a sample chart you can use to format this assignment

Allusion:	Definition of allusion and cite your source for the definition (website or book title)	Where and how the allusion shows up in the text (page number and summary of moment)	Analysis of how the allusion deepens your understanding of the meaning of the text as a whole
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Please familiarize yourself with the allusions on the list provided. The following groups of allusions are included: Mythology, Literature, the Bible, History, Arthurian Legend, Fairy Tales. The lists are not complete ones, but they do provide a basic introduction. Also included is a list of websites and texts to begin your search for defining each allusion. At times, the allusions are listed as a word we use in English referencing a common allusion (e.g.: Jovial, referencing the god Jove). Be sure that, as you become familiar with each allusion, your definition gets to the root of the allusion itself.

Greek Mythology: General Information & Where to Start

<http://www.ipl.org/div/pf/entry/48479>

Bulfinch's Mythology

< <http://ancienthistory.about.com/cs/grecoromanmyth1/a/bulfinch.htm> >

Hans Christian Andersen Fairy Tales

http://childrensbooks.about.com/gi/dynamic/offsite.htm?zi=1/XJ&sdn=childrensbooks&cdn=parenting&tm=16&gps=220_30_1001_557&f=10&su=p284.9.336.ip_p504.1.336.ip_&tt=2&bt=1&bts=1&zu=http%3A/hca.gilead.org.il/

Brothers Grimm Fairy Tales

http://childrensbooks.about.com/gi/dynamic/offsite.htm?zi=1/XJ&sdn=childrensbooks&cdn=parenting&tm=9&gps=123_729_1001_557&f=10&su=p284.9.336.ip_p504.1.336.ip_&tt=2&bt=1&bts=1&zu=http%3A/www-2.cs.cmu.edu/%7Espok/grimtmp/

Fairy Tales Reading & Research

<http://www.ipl.org/div/pf/entry/48473>

Bulfinch The Age of Fable: King Arthur and His Knights

<http://www.bartleby.com/182/index.html#1>

Literature Network: The Bible

<http://www.online-literature.com/bible/bible.php>

The Bible Story Finder

<http://www.dg.dial.pipex.com/articles/educ16.shtml>

Timeless Myths (Classical & Arthurian)

<http://www.timelessmyths.com/>

Internet Public Library Pathfinder: <http://www.ipl.org/div/pf/entry/48473>

(good start for looking at Fairy Tales)

Edith Hamilton's Mythology (synopses of Greek and Roman myths)

Britannia.com (good initial site for Arthurian allusions)

MYTHOLOGICAL ALLUSIONS

- Achilles' Heel	Jupiter	Saturnine
- Adonis	Lethargy	Sibyl
-Atlas	Martial	Sisyphean
- Aeolian	Medea	Stentorian
- Apollo	Mentor	Stygian
- Argus-Eyed	Mercurial	Tantalize
- Athena/Minerva	Mercury/Hermes	Terpsichorean
- Atlantean	Mnemonics	Titanic
- Aurora	Morphine	Volcanoes
- Bacchanalian	Muse	Vulcanize
- Calliope	Narcissism	Zeus
- Cassandra	Neptune	The Hero's Journey
- Centaur	Niobe	(See Joseph Campbell)
- Chimera	Odyssey	Orpheus
- Cupidity	Olympian	Persephone
- Eros	Paeon	
- Furor	Pandora's Box	
- Gorgon	Parnassus	
- Halcyon	Pegasus	
- Harpy	Phoenix	
- Hector	Plutocracy	
- Helen (of Troy)	Promethean	
- Herculean	Protean	
- Hydra-Headed	Psyche	
- Iridescent	Pygmalion	
- Jovial	Pyrrhic Victory	
- Junoesque	Saturnalia	

Literary Allusions

Babbit	Little Lord Fauntleroy	Tartuffe
Brobdingnagian	Lothario	Uncle Tom
Bumble	Malapropism	Uriah Heep
Cinderella	Milquetoast	Walter Mitty
Don Juan	Pickwickian	Yahoo
Don Quixote	Pollyanna	
Panglossian	Pooh-bah	
Falstaffian	Quixotic	
Frankenstein	Robot	
Friday	Rodomontade	
Galahad	Scrooge	
Jekyll and Hyde	Simon Legree	
Lilliputian	Svengali	

Biblical Allusions

33 (age)	Philistine
3:00 (time)	Prodigal Son
Absalom	Ruth and Naomi
Alpha and Omega	Samson and Deliah
Cain	Scapegoat
Daniel	Sepulcher
David and Bathsheba	Sodom and Gomorrah
Eye of the Needle	Solomon
Filthy Lucre	Twelve Tribes of Israel
Goliath	
Good Samaritan	
Handwriting on the Wall	
Ismael	
Jacob	
Job	
Job's Comforters	
Jonah	
Judas	
King Ahab and Jezebel	
Manna	
Original Sin/The Fall	
Pearl of Great Price	

Historical Allusions

Attila
Berserk
Bloomer
Bowdlerize
Boycott
Canopy
Casanova
Chauvinist

Derrick
Donnybrook
Dungaree
El Dorado
Hackney
Horatio Alger
Laconic
Limerick
Machiavellian
Marathon
McCarthyism

Meander
Mesmerize
Nostradamus
Platonic
Sardonic
Shanghai
Spartan
Stonewall
Swiftian

Sybaritic
Thespian
Uncle Sam
Utopia
Wagnerian
Waterloo

Arthurian Allusions

Uther, Igraine, and the story of Arthur's birth
Arthur, Guinevere, and Lancelot
Sir Gawain and "Sir Gawain and the Green Knight" (story in verse)
Merlin
Morgan le Fay
Nimue alias Vivienne, Lady of the Lake
Mordred
Places: Avalon and Camelot
Objects: Excalibur, the Sword in the Stone, the Holy Grail

Fairy Tale Allusions

The Ugly Duckling	The Fisherman and His Wife
Snow White	Cinderella
Rumpelstiltskin	Blue Beard
The Princess and the Pea	Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves
The Pied Piper of Hamelin	Aladdin
Little Red Riding Hood	
Hansel and Gretel	
The Frog Prince	

Reading assignments can be summed up as follows:

- A. READ** *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster
- B. DO** the Study Guide Questions that accompany this book
- C. READ one** of the four novels (chosen according to the first letter of your last name)
- D. WRITE three** journal entries for the novel that you've read.
- E. FAMILIARIZE** yourself with the allusions provided in this handout.
- F. APPLY five** allusions to the novel that you've read (use chart format provided)

