



Hello Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition Student,

As your AP Literature teacher, I welcome you back to St. Joseph Catholic Academy's fine tradition of excellence. The AP English Literature course is designed to mirror a college-level literature composition course. Therefore, students will experience a level of discourse and work load similar to a collegiate course.

You have chosen a more difficult path but definitely a very rewarding one! Before you head out on summer break, I want to take some time to make sure that you have a clear picture of this course and the work that it will entail. The Advanced Placement English Literature class will require you to read a variety of pieces from many different literary genres. It is my hope that throughout this coming school year, as you study these pieces, you will become a more mature writer with your own style and a more comprehensive reader. This is a reading and writing-intensive class; and, while it may be challenging, it will prove to be beneficial in terms of the SAT's/ACT's and the completion of essays in other classes.

Much of this course will be spent in preparation for the AP Exam in the spring (May). This exam will also allow you the opportunity to gain collegiate credits (the amount will depend on which college you plan on attending). Students not intending to take the AP exam need to consider whether this class will be the right fit for them.

**To prepare for our year together, your first requirement is to begin your summer assignments (found on next page).**

Sincerely,

SJCA English Department

# AP Literature & Composition – Summer Reading, Guidelines, and Assignment

## Due Date

- **Reading Assignment Official Due Date: first day of class**
- **Term Assignment Official Due Date: first day of class**

## Summer Reading Text

- *How to Read Literature Like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines, Revised Edition* by Thomas C. Foster (ISBN: 978-0062301673)
  - Students do not have to *own* a copy of this text, but we will reference the text throughout the year-long course. Renting from the library or reading an electronic PDF or text will suffice just as much as a personal print copy.

## Reading Assignment

1. Students are to read ALL of the chapters in the text.
2. While you read, you will create a study guide of notes for yourself.
  - a. Be sure to label by chapter. The best way to make notes is to read the full chapter then write down any “golden nuggets” of your learning, not a summary of the chapter (keep it short and sweet).
    - i. You can also highlight or underline in your text if you own it. However, everyone is required to create a handwritten physical copy of notes. (Most of AP Lit is done by hand due to the AP test being by hand, so please do not type these notes.)
      1. Every student’s will be different because what each person finds interesting or informative will be different.
3. For each chapter, find an example from literature or film (not one that is provided in the chapter) that is familiar to you and illuminates the topic presented in the chapter.
4. After completing the above three tasks, choose **three** chapters that you find interesting or significant. Then, I want you to revise and expand the notes that you already have for them.
  - a. Pretend you are teaching your three chosen chapters to someone whom has never read the text before; think about what they would need to know in order to understand the chapters fully.
    - i. You can do this revision and expansion right on the first draft of notes or you can make a separate set of notes for your revised ideas. Again, every student’s will be different.

### **Terms Assignment Directions:**

Below you will find literary terms, many of which you are familiar. You are going to make flashcards. Please put each of these terms on the front of a separate notecard; you will have to look up and find the definition to go on the backside of each notecard. Even though you are familiar with many of these, please be sure to write the correct definition.

Be sure to study them over the summer! I know that most of you err on the side of Quizlet, but please note that these do need to be done by hand on actual flashcards.

- Allegory
- Allusion
- Anthropomorphism
- Figurative Language
- Foil
- Foreshadowing
- Parallelism
- Repetition
- Adage/proverb
- Analogy
- Alliteration
- Assonance
- Cliché
- Hyperbole
- Idiom
- Irony
- Metaphor
- Onomatopoeia
- Oxymoron
- Personification
- Pun
- Simile
- Symbolism
- Understatement
- Antagonist
- Characterization
- Climax
- Conflict
- Diction
- Exposition
- Imagery
- Mood
- Motif
- Narrator
- Plot
- Point of view
- Protagonist
- Setting
- Tone
- Theme
- Prose
- Poetry