

## **IB English HL 1**

Summer Assignment 2017

### **Texts Needed:**

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

*The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald (Buy this)

### **Join These:**

**Google Classroom Code:** u4ne8m (you *must* use your [student@studentbishopamat.org](mailto:student@studentbishopamat.org) email)

### **Purpose of this assignment:**

When reading literature, students generally focus on two things: plot and theme. In IB Literature, you will be required to analyze many different aspects of fiction and nonfiction and touch on more than just plot and theme.

- The book *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* gives a great foundation on the types of analytical skills you will need to possess in order to succeed in my class and on the IB external assessments.
- *The Great Gatsby* is a relatively easy read—short and concise—but is full of depth and can be analyzed to no end. You will apply the skills you learn in *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* into your reading of *The Great Gatsby*.
- Think of this assignment as Unit 1 of this course. We will be using this text over the next two school years.
- THESE GRADES WILL COUNT TOWARD YOUR FIRST SEMESTER GRADE.

### **Assignment:**

1. I have broken this assignment up into manageable two-week assignments. Each will be posted on Google Classroom and you will have two weeks to complete it. Each assignment, including reading, should take you no more than two hours to complete.
2. In addition, you will have quizzes that will ask you to demonstrate understanding of the work.
3. Near the end of your vacation, I will share a series of notecards via Quizlet that include many of the terms and concepts you'll need to know to be successful over the next two years. You will have a 50-point test that you must earn 100 percent on (you may take it multiple times) by the end of the first six weeks of school. This test will include application of these ideas, not just memorizing them.

## **Motivation\***

\*Just some things to get you started. These quotes have nothing to do with your assignment.

*On Loving Work:* “[I love my work] intensely — I wouldn’t be in it if I ever stopped loving it, I would shift it and go over into something else ... I don’t think life is worth livings unless you’re doing something you love completely, so that you get out of bed in the morning and want to rush to do it. If you’re doing something mediocre, if you’re doing something to fill in time, life really isn’t worth living...” - Ray Bradbury

*On Loving Life:* “I urge you to please notice when you are happy, and exclaim or murmur or think at some point, 'If this isn't nice, I don't know what is.'” - Kurt Vonnegut

*On Self-Reliance:* “You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. And YOU are the one who'll decide where to go...” - Dr. Seuss

*On Not Procrastinating:* “Unfortunately, the clock is ticking, the hours are going by. The past increases, the future recedes. Possibilities decreasing, regrets mounting.”  
- Haruki Murakami

### **A note from your teacher:**

Your choice to take IB English is a good one. This two-year course will challenge you to think differently and will challenge you to be responsible with your reading. If you do not read, you will not succeed and this course will not be fun for you nor for me. Start off right and read!

In addition to the Introduction and Postlude, there are 29 chapters in the *How to Read Literature* book. Don't wait until an hour before the assignment is due to start reading. You'll hate the books. And you'll hate me. Then you'll turn in terrible work. And I'll not think too fondly of you. And then I'll judge you for the rest of your life on the terrible assignment you turned in.

Success in IB English is up to you. I don't mind giving 100 percent of you A's if you deserve the grades. If you do your part, I'll do mine. You'll love me and I'll love you. (MDM)