

Mrs. Olson's English 4AP  
Summer Reading 2018

1. Purchase (or borrow from a library) and read *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster (ISBN: 006000942X).

**Amazon Review:** "What does it mean when a fictional hero takes a journey? Shares a meal? Gets drenched in a sudden rain shower? Often, there is much more going on in a novel or poem than is readily visible on the surface—a symbol, maybe, that remains elusive, or an unexpected twist on a character—and there's that sneaking suspicion that the deeper meaning of a literary text keeps escaping you.

In this practical and amusing guide to literature, Thomas C. Foster shows how easy and gratifying it is to unlock those hidden truths, and to discover a world where a road leads to a quest; a shared meal may signify a communion; and rain, whether cleansing or destructive, is never just rain. Ranging from major themes to literary models, narrative devices, and form, *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* is the perfect companion for making your reading experience more enriching, satisfying, and fun."

2. Purchase a bound composition notebook (the kind that usually has a black speckled cover) to use as a journal. Then begin reading *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*. I was recently introduced to this book because AP teachers across the country have been raving about its benefits for their students, and now YOU will get to receive those benefits! As you are reading, take notes in your journal about information you are learning and how it applies to books, stories, poems, or plays you have read over the last year or two. Organize your notes with the chapter title as the heading, then the notes related to that chapter. Take notes on at least 15 of the chapters. Keep your notes concise; you should have between 8 and 15 pages (**no more!!**) of notes by the time you finish the book.
3. Write an "analysis" of *The Great Gatsby*. This analysis must be typed and uploaded to turnitin.com. Use your own skills in reading literature, in addition to suggestions you picked up from *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*, to write 1 to 2 pages (**no more!**) of commentary. Consider Foster's questions on page 282: *what does the novel signify? How does it signify?*

Everything in your journal and analysis should reflect **your** original thoughts, questions, and connections. **Do not use information from outside sources or from your peers. ANY work compiled with assistance from peers or from the use of the Internet will be considered plagiarism and will not receive credit.**

**This is due on the first day of class.**

## AP Summer Reading Rubric

The Summer Reading assignment will count as a 50 point paper. The letter grade will be entered as an A-F letter grade.

CATEGORY	10	8.5	7	5
<b>Project Quality &amp; Completion</b>	Project is complete with reading notes on at least 15 chapters and a 1-2 page analysis of <i>Gatsby</i> .	Project is missing notes on one chapter.	Project is missing notes on 2 chapters.	Project is missing notes on 3 or more chapters AND/OR lacks analysis of <i>Gatsby</i> .
<b>Writing Quality</b>	Every part is well written with very few grammatical/ mechanical problems.	Most parts are well written with some grammatical/ mechanical problems.	Some parts may be well written, but many contain grammatical/ mechanical problems.	Most parts contain grammatical/ mechanical problems.
<b>Analysis</b>	Well-focused and persuasive analysis using apt and specific references. Displays significant insight and understanding.	Reasonable analysis with less thorough/perceptive/ specific references to the text.	Superficial or underdeveloped analysis. Demonstrates a rather simplistic understanding of the work.	Demonstrates a less than thorough understanding of the task and an incomplete or oversimplified understanding of the work. May rely on plot summary.
<b>Notes</b>	Thorough notes. Good connections and ideas.	Mostly thorough notes. Some good connections/ideas.	Notes on some (but not all) chapters are thorough. Very few connections.	Weak or incomplete notes. Mostly weak or no connections.
<b>Overall Quality</b>	Notes are well put together, neat, and organized. Analysis is obviously revised & proofread. Book obviously read.	Notes are well put together but may not be perfectly organized. Analysis proofread. Book probably read.	Notes could be better put together (not well organized). Analysis not proofread. Book probably not read.	Notes need to be better put together. Analysis not looked over or proofread. Obvious that book was not read.

- A 50-45 Points
- B 44-40 Points
- C 39-35 Points
- D 34-30 Points
- F 29-0 or No turnitin.com