

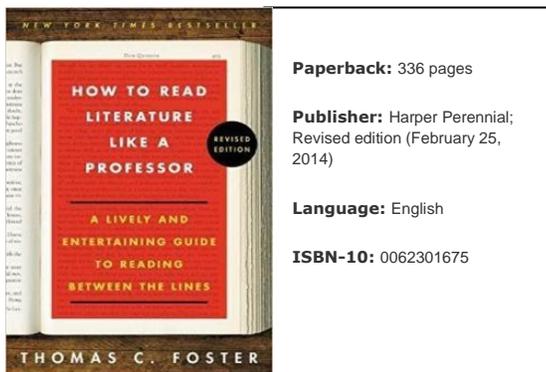
2021 AP English Literature and Composition: Summer Reading

Welcome to Advanced Placement (AP) English Literature and Composition! We're following a time-honored AP tradition by starting class with summer reading and writing assignments. These will give us an opportunity to practice the skills at the heart of our class: engaging in close reading and critical analysis to deepen our understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure in imaginative works of literature. The intention of these assignments is to prepare you for our exploration of literature this coming school year and to provide you an opportunity to demonstrate your current ability to evaluate literature thoughtfully.



Literature Assignments:

#1



Paperback: 336 pages
Publisher: Harper Perennial;
Revised edition (February 25, 2014)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0062301675



#2

Choice Novel

Choose **one** of the listed works. They vary greatly by theme, publishing date, page length, and style. Choose one that matches your interests.



Note: This is a college level course. Some of the titles depict mature language and situations. Descriptions can be found online. Text samples can also be found online and at your local library.

Choose One

Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe
Purple Hibiscus by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
Bless Me Ultima by Rudolfo Anaya
The Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri
The Bonesetter's Daughter by Amy Tan
The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne
Obasan by Joy Kogawa
The Color Purple by Alice Walker
The Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison
The Things They Carried by Tim O'Brien
Ceremony by Leslie Marmon Silko
One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest by Ken Kesey
The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao by Junot Diaz

Obtaining the Text: You will need to buy the books or check them out from the library. Please refer to the provided ISBN numbers listed for each text. This is a necessary part of a college-level class. I will try to keep costs at a reasonable level for the entire course (well below the textbook costs for most college English classes), but you should always talk to me if buying a book presents a financial hardship. Don't hesitate to email me this summer.

Due Date: Your summer reading assignments are due digitally at 8:30 AM on Friday, August 20, 2021. You will need to upload the complete assignments to Google Classroom. Please submit these together in one pdf or word document so that they may be viewed and annotated for assessment. You will be alerted once the Google Classroom posting is open for submission.

Assessment: Please note that late work will not be eligible for full credit, but if your responses follow the guidelines of the rubric and are turned in on time, then it's possible to start the class with an A. The rubric for this summer reading assignment can be found on the last page of this document. Try not to stress out about being wrong. I want to see how you respond to the text, how you think, and how you support your interpretations to get a sense of where you are foundationally in relationship to reading and analyzing literature. The scoring rubric is on the last page of this document.

Note: You may read and complete the dialectical journal assignment for up to two additional novels to count as one additional minor assignment grade per semester. Email me if you want to submit an additional dialectical journal for extra credit.

See Directions for Assignments on the Next Pages.

Instructions for Outline: *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* (HTRLLAP)

How to Read Literature Like Professor, by Thomas Foster guides you in how to recognize and use literary conventions so that reading is less of a mystery. As you continue to grow in your ability to recognize these conventions, your literary analysis will become more assured. Plus, it's fun. For this year, I invite you to consider yourself a literature sleuth. In Arthur Conan Doyle's mysteries, Sherlock Holmes and his sidekick Dr. John Watson both observe villains very closely, but their interpretations vary. Watson can only describe what he sees. This is useful, but it is also the reason he serves as Holmes' sidekick and documentarian. Holmes' close reading goes further, which is why he is the star detective. Like Watson, he too observes all the details, but he has the knowledge to interpret what he sees and to draw conclusions (inferences), which ultimately enable him to solve the mysteries. The assignment for Foster's HTRLLAP will provide you with more knowledge to better enable you to interpret what you see to solve various literary mysteries.

You will complete the following for each chapter. 1) Write out the chapter name. 2) Restate the main lesson in your own words. Be concise, accurate and complete. 3) Identify where the main lesson from five different chapters of HTRLLAP are present in your novel. You may use the format below to complete these tasks. Your responses will serve as proof of completion of the reading. You will also be using it to analyze your assigned novel, as well as other works we study throughout the year. See the format below. Please use a MLA style for the headers and margins.

Doe 1

Jakai Do (*Student Name*)

Ms. Chidwick (*Teacher Name*)

AP English Literature and Composition (*Class Name*)

22 August 2018 (*Due Date*)

Outline of Main Lessons for *HTRLLAP*

Chapter Number and Title: _____
Restatement of Main Lesson: _____

Do the ideas in this chapter apply to your summer reading novel? Underline: Yes or No. If yes, note the page #(s) of one moment where you see it operating. _____

Repeat for each chapter.

See Dialectical Journal Instructions on the Next Page.

Instructions for Dialectical Journal:

You are strongly encouraged to annotate your novel. That said, I will not grade your annotations. They are for you; therefore, only annotate if you need to do so for yourself. Some students heavily annotate. Others do not. By this point in your school career, I trust that you know what works for you. Use any style of annotation that will help you to successfully complete the dialectical journal and be prepared for class discussions, class assignments, and/or AP style timed writings. Regardless of your annotation method (circling, highlighting, various colored post it notes, coded symbols, notes in the margin), it would be helpful for your annotations to (at the very least) identify excerpts that could be used to write about the following in your dialectical journal.

- A. Diction: Note the choice of words the author uses, especially if you see patterns of words with a similar effect.
- B. Syntax: Note when a sentence or grouping of sentences seems especially impactful. When this happens you may want to examine their structure, the arrangement of words within them, their length or brevity, their type (questions, exclamations, declaratives, rhetorical, periodic, simple, complex or compound)
- C. Character and Conflict (two types literary elements): Trace the psychological development of the main character(s), as they encounter conflicts on their journey. Usually the resolution or lack thereof heavily impacts theme development and, thus, the meaning of the work as a whole.
- D. Literary Techniques: These are various tools and techniques the author uses to best convey their message. Common devices include figurative language, such as simile, metaphor, personification, and allusion, alliteration, rhyme, parallelism, tone; but there are many others. For a fuller list see <https://literarydevices.net/> but don't worry about learning all items on the list. Just look for what you are already familiar with if you feel you need a reminder and use those.
- E. Literary Elements: Trace patterns, repetitions, and recurring elements within the text, including images, phrases, situations, settings, symbols, archetypes, motifs, mood, themes, symbols, etc. Here is where you can employ main lessons you learned about in *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*. When you notice main lessons from a particular chapter applying, then identify and analyze them. Pay special attention to emerging thematic concepts that indicate the meaning of the work as a whole. Let's say the thematic concept of "love" is being explored. What is the author saying about love? What is the complex truth about it that is being revealed? Note: This is just an example and may or may not be a theme within your novel.

Dialectical Journal Directions: (See the image with example entries on next page for clarity regarding the bullet points below.)

- Create a split page by creating a line down a third of the page.
- Select 10 excerpts from across the novel by dividing it roughly into fifths and making sure to choose two excerpts from each fifth.
- Use the MLA format for heading
- Type the excerpts out with their page number(s) on the left side of a split page journal.
- Analyze and explain the significance of the each excerpt given A-E above. Write an analytical paragraph for each excerpt on the right hand side of the journal. You do not have to try to discuss all of A-E for each excerpt. Rather, discuss what of A-E is especially relevant per excerpt. Write a minimum of four sentences and a maximum of ten. Do not write ten often. Honestly, if you always only write four sentences, that is okay as long as they exhibit your critical thinking and reading skills in relationship to the excerpt. It's just that students get inspired, and I want to allow for the inspiration but limit it at ten sentences with a maximum of two excerpts being at that length. There are other things to do this summer besides complete this dialectical journal. Get outside; enjoy the sun and earth; go biking and swimming; stay chill in the heat. I mean this from the bottom of my heart. Plus, being limited forces deeper thinking about what is truly important to explore, as well as how to best express it.

See Dialectical Journal Example on the Next Page

Student Name: _____

Period # _____

Scoring Rubric for:
Chapter Notes on *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* and
Dialectical Journal of Your Choice Novel

Both

- MLA format is accurate with no errors in headings and formatting. _____ (10)
- Outline and Dialectical Journal formatting directions are followed. _____ (5)
- Grammar and Mechanics do not interfere with reading either assignment. _____ (10)

Outline

- Main lesson for each chapter is clearly, concisely, and accurately stated. _____ (10)
- Identifies Chapter Concepts Related to Reading with Page Numbers. _____ (10)

Dialectical Journal

- Excerpts are well chosen, spanning the text (5 sections) and the points of analysis (diction, syntax, character and conflict, literary techniques and elements) _____ (10)
- Excerpts are specifically analyzed with reasoning that is clearly, fully, and logically explained within the directed parameters. Analysis reaches for complexity. _____ (30)
- Dialectical has an authentic reader's voice and tone: It is not canned and not devoid of personal reflection, though the focus is on an academic analysis of the text. _____ (15)

Total: _____ (100)

Note: If lack of authenticity reveals plagiarism, you will be unable to earn a passing grade for submitted work.

Additional Note: If the work is submitted late, then the English Department late policy for minor/major assignments will apply. Per department policy, for AP English classes this means a reduction of 15 points per day until a 60 is reached with the grading commencing from there through a 4 day window for submission. After the 4th day the minor/major can earn no higher than a 50 up until the end of the quarter.