

## AP Literature and Composition Summer/1st Semester Reading 2019-2020

Welcome to AP English Literature and Composition! I hope you're looking forward to next year's class. In an effort to build a literary foundation from which to draw for the AP Literature and Composition exam, you are required to read three texts and complete the assignments listed below over the summer. These assignments will be due on the first day of class, and you should be prepared to discuss, present, and submit all portions of the assignment when you walk in the door. Please note that all required texts, assignments, and instructions are clearly laid out in this document. **Failure to read this document in its entirety and/or to follow these instructions will result in a loss of points.**

### Guidelines for completing this assignment:

- You are responsible for procuring your own copies of the required texts. You may purchase or borrow the books. However, we will use them regularly, and you will need to have access to them the entire semester.
- All assignments should be completed in the order in which they are listed below.
- Everything should be completed **digitally**, in **MLA format**, and collected in a **Google Folder** named "LastName\_First Name\_APLit\_Summer Reading." A link to this folder will be submitted on the first day of class.
- Each individual assignment should be named "LastName\_FirstName\_AssignmentName."
- If you have questions about the reading or assignments, they should be resolved through email (below) PRIOR to the beginning of your first class.
- **If gaining access to copies of the books or a digital device on which to complete your assignments is an issue for you, please contact Mr. Glassman or Mrs. Rykard no later than July 1, 2019 so that we can help you or make alternate arrangements.**

### Teacher Contact Information:

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**RESOURCES**-Use these as you work through these assignments. You are expected to use the tips, methods, and ideas in these websites in creating your assignments (except the library, which is to help you find copies of the texts).

- [MLA Formatting Guide at Purdue University](#)
  - [Creating Google Folders on Any Device](#)
  - [Lexington County Public Library](#)
  - [17 Ideas for More Compelling and Effective Presentations](#)
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## REQUIRED TEXTS

1. Thomas C. Foster—*How to Read Literature Like a Professor*
  2. Kate Chopin—*The Awakening*
  3. William Shakespeare—*Much Ado About Nothing*
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## ASSIGNMENTS

### **PART 1: FOSTER (formative grade)**

Read *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster. As you read, take **detailed** notes on each chapter. You will be using the strategies and referring to Foster's concepts as you complete Parts 2-4 below. In addition, you will use these notes the first week of class to complete an assignment, as well as throughout the semester as we analyze our in class texts. Notes are 4 pts per chapter.

### **PART 2: CHOPIN (formative grade)**

Read *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin. As you read, keep a journal. Please use the guidelines and rubric below for creating and writing in your journal.

### **PART 3: SHAKESPEARE (formative grade)**

Read *Much Ado About Nothing* by William Shakespeare. As you read, keep a journal. Please use the guidelines and rubric below for creating and writing your journal.

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## **JOURNAL INSTRUCTIONS (for parts 2 and 3 above)**

Write at least **four** entries **per text** (for Chopin and Shakespeare).

- Respond to the section you read; you could respond to one chapter, ten chapters, or whatever section you read in your sitting. Tell about your impressions of the book.
- Respond by answering questions like these:
  - How did that section make you feel? Why??
  - Did anything surprise you? What specifically? Why?
  - What was your favorite part, and why?
  - What did you notice about the way the characters behaved and changed?
  - What did you notice about the writing/language of the book?
  - What connections to Foster can you make?
- Each of your journal entries must include references to the concepts in Foster's book; show how reading Foster has influenced your understanding of the text. For example, you may write something like this: "When Hedda goes to the bank, it reminds one of what Foster said about institutions being a symbol for

temptation, conservatism, or stability. Maybe Hedda is experiencing...” There should be enough references to Foster to prove you have read and understood Foster’s book and that you are synthesizing what you learned from Foster as you study other texts.

- You will be graded on the degree to which you interact with and offer commentary about the text. Please do not just summarize the plot. Summary will receive zero points.
- Each entry should be approximately 1.5 - 2 pages typed (in MLA format).
- Respond intelligently to the reading, but make sure these are your own thoughts; do not use Cliff’s Notes or Sparknotes or any other summary/analysis websites or texts.

**Each entry is 25 points:**

Intelligent, thought-provoking response (15 points)

Effective, thoughtful connection to Foster (10 points)

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**PART 4: BOOK TALK (summative grade)**

Prepare a book talk presentation that you will deliver to the class. Select **one** of the two books from parts 2 and 3 (either Chopin or Shakespeare). What tools you use to create this presentation is up to you. You could use Keynote, Prezi, Canva, iMovie, PechaKucha or another app/tool. Whatever you use, please see the info in the resources section above about creating an engaging and creative presentation. A complete draft of this presentation must be completed before day 1 of class. You will receive feedback, have the opportunity for a conference, and have a chance to make changes prior to your presentation. Your presentation should include the following.

- A Visual (10 points):** Draw/paint a picture of a significant part of the book. Significant means that it is integral to the story and overall meaning. It might develop a character, drive the plot forward, be a turning point, be symbolic, etc. Fill up at least one full 8.5 x 11 inch page (may be bigger, but no smaller). Your artwork should show effort and thoughtful design. No stick figures. Be able to explain how and why this is significant to the book.
- B. A Connection to Foster (20 points):** Select five concepts from Foster to connect to your chosen book. Include specific examples from Foster and your chosen text to support the connection. Your connections should represent the most important ideas, theme, or motifs of your chosen book.
- C. Societal Perceptions (20 points):** Explain what societal issues or perceptions are illustrated in the text and how reading this novel 1) changed your perceptions on the social issue, 2) reaffirmed your perceptions, or 3) taught a life lesson about the issue.
- D. A Character Analysis (20 points):** Choose one significant character from your chosen book and do an analysis of him/her. Consider his/her statements, actions, motivations,

descriptions, personality, **and** interactions with other characters. Explain how all of these qualities augment the overall meaning of the novel.

- E. **Stylistic Analysis (20 points):** Analyze the author's style, providing specific examples of how his/her style impacted your interpretation of the text and its meaning. Style may include the use of symbolism, motifs, figurative language, word choice, backstory, flashback, foreshadowing, narrative perspective, imagery, etc. Your analysis should include specific examples from the text with your discussion.
  - F. **Presentation (10 points):** Present your book talk to the class. Be prepared, practice in advance, and be loud and clear. Use visuals as needed.
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### **OTHER TEXTS**

The AP Literature and Composition exam requires you to have a foundation of literary texts from which to draw for the written response. By the time you come to this course, you will have already studied several important works from various time periods and genres. However, the more experience you have with literature, the better you become at interpreting and evaluating it. In addition, outside reading will help build your list of possible texts you can reference on the exam. Please see this [list of suggestions](#) for further reading to supplement your knowledge base outside of class.

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If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email Mr. Glassman or Mrs. Rykard (contact info above).

Have a safe and fun summer!