

Advanced Placement Literature and Composition ~2018 Summer Reading Assignment~

In preparation for your A.P. Literature and Composition experience in the fall, you are required to complete the following summer reading assignment:

~The Book~

How to Read Literature Like a Professor, by Thomas C. Foster

Within the first few days of class, there will be a comprehensive exam on *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*. We will refer to this book throughout the year, so read actively! Underline, highlight, and make comments in the margins. You will see references to *many* works of literature in the book. Do not feel you need to memorize all of these works of literature; instead, focus on the **concepts** that Foster presents in his chapters.

See you in the fall! Good luck!

In order to do well on the exam, familiarize yourself with the following concepts from Foster's book:

- quests in literature
- "meals" in literature
- a "wholly original work of literature" / Is it possible? Why/why not?
- Foster claims "there's only one _____" (32) What does he mean?
- myths
- rain/water in literature
- symbol and allegory
- a definition and example of a symbolic action
- the connection between Thomas Malthus and Dickens' A Christmas Carol
- Christ-like figures in literature
- the role of "flight" in literature
- an example of an author's ability to use sexual imagery without people actually having sex
- the connection between fall/harvest season and characters
- two examples of physical imperfections as symbols
- heart disease in literature