

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

Summer Reading for Pre-IB Freshmen

T.R. Robinson High School

“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” (Good Reads).

This book will be your literary bible for grades nine and ten in the Pre IB-English courses. This will be a valuable resource when it comes to honing your literary analysis skills. Your assignment for this summer is to read the first thirteen chapters (listed below). You should create a table in a word document with three columns and fourteen rows (see the start of an example below). There should be a submission in the table for EACH of the thirteen chapters listed below.

| Chapter title | The Professor says... | I say... |
|---|--|--|
| Include the chapter title here, in quotation marks. | In this column select 3-5 key points from the chapter. There is no need to quote the book. | In this column include 1-2 examples you’ve experienced in your own reading or from film or television. Be sure the connection is clearly explained, as the teacher may not recognize your reference, or example. |

This assignment will be submitted electronically, during the first week of school, through Turnitin.com. Students will create accounts for this website during the first week of school.

To further Foster’s ideas, we will “jigsaw” the 9th grade chapters, 1-13. You and a partner will be assigned a chapter, compare notes, and discuss the big ideas and key details Foster offers. You will then present to the class, providing examples from media and literature to deepen the class’s understanding of the material.

1. Every Trip Is a Quest (Except When It’s Not)
2. Nice to Eat with You: Acts of Communion
3. Nice to Eat You: Acts of Vampires
5. Now, Where Have I Seen Her Before?
6. When in Doubt, It’s from Shakespeare...
7. ...Or the Bible
8. Hanseldee and Greteldum
9. It’s Greek to Me
10. It’s More Than Just Rain or Snow
11. ...More Than It’s Gonna Hurt You: Concerning Violence
12. Is That a Symbol?
13. It’s All Political

Please email me with any pertinent questions buffy.vassey@hcps.net. I look forward to the 22-23 school year!