

M. Chyla
AP English Literature
Summer Assignment~June 2024

Welcome to twelfth grade Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition. You have embarked on a noble endeavor to challenge yourself into a college level course. Its rigor will be demanding and rewarding. As such, we begin with an introductory assignment, which will provide you with the necessary background and preparation for the expectations of the course. You will read two books. One is a novel. The other will help you understand how to read novels.

Thomas Foster says, “Basically, we’ve all read the same story, but we haven’t used the same analytical apparatus”. For the first part of your assignment, we will be reading chapters from Foster’s book, *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*, which will help us recognize patterns that continually occur in literature to prepare us to become professional readers. The goal is to become more adept at recognizing commonalities in literary works that we will study this year.

For the second part of the assignment, you will read and analyze *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah.

Thirdly, we will apply our newfound knowledge of Foster techniques to analyze *The Nightingale* in an AP style essay.

Google Classroom Code: Please join as soon as possible: [yzd2id](#)

****All assignments are due: Friday, September 6, 2024! ****

*****You must submit all completed work separately on Turnitin.com when we return to school. Instructions to follow in September. *****

******Late summer assignments will not be accepted. Whether you are in class or absent that day, the assignments are still due on Friday, September 6th. ******

Part 1: Thomas Foster reading

It is one thing to read a guide to literature on its own and a completely other thing to read a guide to literature and apply that information to it at the same time. Therefore, as we read this book, we are going to use the techniques to examine our works throughout the year.

Throughout his book, Foster mentions dozens of authors and literary works. If you haven't read them, *don't worry!* I've not even read all of them. He uses them to explain why his points are valid and how his points can be used to analyze literature. Don't focus on the work you don't know, but focus on the information he gives about the text and how he uses it.

Chapters to read from the **Revised Edition** of Foster's *How to Read Literature Like A Professor*:

Introduction

Chapter 1: Every Trip is a Quest

2: Nice to Eat with You: Acts of Communion

4: Now, Where Have I Seen Her Before?

5: When In Doubt, It's From Shakespeare...

6: ...Or the Bible

7: Hansel and Gretel

8: It's Greek to Me

9: It's More than Just Rain or Snow

12: Is That a Symbol?

14: Yes, She's a Christ Figure, Too

18: If She Comes Up, It's Baptism

19: Geography Matters

20: So Does Season

Interlude: One Story

23: It's Never Just Heart Disease...and Rarely Just Illness

24: Don't Read with Your Eyes

26: Is He Serious? And Other Ironies

***Assignment #1: Suggested Note Taking: Dialectical Journals:**

*You are responsible for **reading 18 chapters**. (Feel free to read the rest too-other chapters will be assigned throughout the year). Create a **handwritten** dialectical journal to use with your in class writing throughout the year-a visible record of the thoughts that emerge while making sense of the reading. A typical dialectical journal/notebook records a quote, phrase, or word with a page number on the left hand side of a paper and in the second column on the right, record your reactions and interpretations. So, information on the left, your analysis/interpretation/thoughts on the right. You will need to refer to these notes throughout the year, so keep it organized! If you do not create handwritten notes, you will not have them for the first in class on demand essay given the first week of school or for use when writing future essays.

Part 2 : The Nightingale

The Nightingale: With courage, grace, and powerful insight, bestselling author Kristin Hannah captures the epic panorama of World War II and illuminates an intimate part of history seldom seen: the women's war. *The Nightingale* tells the stories of two sisters, separated by years and experience, by ideals, passion and circumstance, each embarking on her own dangerous path toward survival, love, and freedom in German-occupied, war-torn France—a heartbreakingly beautiful novel that celebrates the resilience of the human spirit and the durability of women. It is a novel for everyone, a novel for a lifetime.

***Assignment #2: Precis: Understanding Literature: *The Nightingale*:**

This exercise is worth a quiz grade. **Type** out your answers.

1. **Precis:** Write a précis (brief synopsis no more than ½ page, single spaced) of the novel you read. The assignment must be in your own words. **(25pts)**
2. **Vocabulary:** Provide a bulleted list of 10 new vocabulary words (with definitions AND part of speech) you learned from the novel. **(10pts)**
3. **Tone:** Choose THREE different tones and give examples from the novel. **(15 pts)**
4. **Writing strategies:** List **5 examples** of writing strategies (literary elements/literary techniques) from the novel along with the phrase or sentence in which the strategy occurs. *Cannot repeat devices! Cite page number in parenthetical documentation. **(25pts)**
5. **Questions:** List three creative discussion questions about the novel with answers. **(15 pts)**
 - a) One question which asks for **clarification** of something within the novel. (Example: What exactly did the mother do on that day?)
 - b) One question which addresses the author's **style**. (Example: How does the writer's style in this chapter differ from the other chapters in the novel?)
 - c) One question which **applies the theme** or concept of the novel to contemporary society or another area. (Example: How do you think this character would react to the upcoming Presidential Election?)*****LABEL all questions. And you MUST provide possible answers to each question!*****
6. **Quotation:** Include an interesting, memorable, or provocative quotation from the novel and discuss why it jumped out at you as the choice to include. **(10pts)**

Part 3 : Synthesis

***Assignment #3: Essay:**

Choose a technique you studied in Foster's *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*, and focusing on one technique, ***type out*** an essay analyzing how that technique functions in *The Nightingale* and what it reveals about the characters or themes of the work as a whole. Do not merely summarize the plot. This essay should be a ***1.5-2 pages double spaced typed response*** and is worth a test grade.

~Grading of Assignment #3: A Novel/Foster technique AP style essay: Rubric: Based on the AP 6 point grading scale:

[AP English Literature and Composition Scoring Rubrics, Effective Fall 2019](#)