AP English Literature: Summer Assignments

Mr. Narozny

This will all be due by the first Friday of the school year.

1. Read the following books:

- a. How to Read Literature Like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines, Revised Edition by Thomas C. Foster
 - If you don't want to purchase the book, email me and I'll get you a pdf of it. ☺
 - You only need to read 10 chapters. You can choose any 10 you find appealing.
- b. Ethan Frome by Edith Wharton (Stop by the school's Library to pick it up.)
- c. OPTIONAL: read the whole Foster book. It's worth it.

A. Summaries:

- In one document, state the main point of any 10 chapters of Foster's book that you enjoy.
 - This is a lot, so don't overdo it! (1-2 sentences each will be fine.)
 - Just state the main point of the chapters. Seriously, keep it simple... but in your own words!
 - A Google Classroom assignment will be created for you to submit this when school begins.
 - It must be typed in MLA format (size 12, Times New Roman, double-spaced).
- **B. Paragraph Connections**: (5 to 7 sentences each)
 - Read *Ethan Frome* and write **THREE** separate paragraphs in which you relate elements of *Ethan Frome* to **THREE** of Foster's chapters. In each paragraph, analyze *Ethan Frome* using insights you learned from a particular chapter of Foster's text. **No need to restate what Foster says**; just analyze the novella through the lens of what Foster argues.
 - For example, one Foster chapter is about the symbolism of sharing a meal. You would find an example from *Ethan Frome* of characters sharing a meal and discuss what it reveals about the characters based on what Foster argues in his book.
 - Title each of the 3 paragraphs with the title of Foster's chapters.
 - This must be in a single document separate from the summaries; start each paragraph on a new page.
 - A Google Classroom assignment will be created for you to submit this when school begins.
 - It must be typed in MLA format (size 12, Times New Roman, double-spaced).

#2 is OPTIONAL & for extra credit.

- **2.** Read **ONE** of the books listed below and do the following:
 - Complete the assignment outlined in **1-B** above for this extra book. (i.e., relate this extra book to Foster's...)
 - As you read, pay close attention to relationships, themes, symbols, and conflicts.

This is a list of books that appear frequently on the AP Lit exam. Even if you don't complete the optional work listed above, reading any of these books these will help you be more prepared for the third essay question on the AP Lit Exam.

Read more than one, if you have time! ©

Optional Books:

- 1. Invisible Man by Ralph Ellison*
- 2. Native Son by Richard Wright
- 3. Great Expectations by Charles Dickens
- 4. King Lear by William Shakespeare
- 5. Crime and Punishment by Fyodor Dostoevsky
- 6. Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte
- 7. The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain

- 8. Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man by James Joyce
- 9. Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston
- 10. Catch-22 by Joseph Heller
- 11. The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver
- 12. The Sound and the Fury by William Faulkner
- 13. The Sun Also Rises by Ernest Hemingway
- 14. Beloved by Toni Morrison

Please email me if you have questions or need any help.

I check my email throughout the summer and will try to respond promptly.

^{*}Invisible Man is the book that has appeared the most on the AP Lit exam.