

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

Parts 1 – 3 are required.

**Part 4 is optional for extra credit and highly recommended!**

**Part 1: Read 10 chapters of the following book.**

- *How to Read Literature Like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines* by Thomas C. Foster
- If you don't want to purchase the book, email me and I'll get you a pdf of it. ☺
- Each chapter of the book discusses a different approach to analyzing literature.
- You only need to read 10 chapters...just choose any 10 you find appealing, based on their titles.

**Part 2: Read *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe (Stop by the school's Library to pick it up.)**

**Part 3: Apply the Foster book to *Things Fall Apart***

- Choose 3 chapters from the Foster book that can be applied to an analysis of *Things Fall Apart*.
- Write **THREE** separate paragraphs in which you relate elements of *Things Fall Apart* to **THREE** of Foster's chapters. (5 to 7 sentences each...no more!)
- In each paragraph, analyze *Things Fall Apart* using insights you learned from Foster's text. **No need to restate what Foster says**; just analyze the novel 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 *Things Fall Apart* of characters sharing a meal and discuss what it reveals about the characters based on what Foster argues in his book.
- **Label each of the 3 paragraphs with the title of the Foster chapters you selected.**
- 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).
- Be prepared to discuss *Things Fall Apart* in detail in September. (You'll be writing an essay on it, so read it carefully.)

**Part 4: (optional for extra credit!)**

- Read **ONE** of the books listed below and do the following:
- Write a 1 to 2-page explanation of how a theme from the book is developed, then relate that theme to the meaning of the work as a whole. (MLA format)
- **Ex:** One theme in *Lord of the Flies* is Civilization and Savagery. How does Golding develop that theme in the novella? What message about The Human Condition does he communicate through that theme?
- If you need help with this concept, just reach out to me!
- 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).

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Below is a list of books that appear frequently on the AP Lit exam. Reading any of these books these will help you be more prepared for the third essay question on the Exam, even if you don't do the optional extra credit. **Read more than one, if you have time!** ☺

## Book Choices

***Support a local used book store or utilize a library!  
Our school library has many of these as well.***

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| 1. <i>Arcadia</i> by Tom Stoppard                | 11. <i>King Lear</i> by William Shakespeare                     |
| 2. <i>Beloved</i> by Toni Morrison               | 12. <i>Native Son</i> by Richard Wright                         |
| 3. <i>Brave New World</i> by Aldous Huxley       | 13. <i>Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man</i> by James Joyce |
| 4. <i>Catch-22</i> by Joseph Heller              | 14. <i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i> by Mark Twain     |
| 5. <i>Fences</i> by August Wilson                | 15. <i>The Awakening</i> by Kate Chopin                         |
| 6. <i>Frankenstein</i> by Mary Shelley           | 16. <i>The Catcher in the Rye</i> by J.D. Salinger              |
| 7. <i>Great Expectations</i> by Charles Dickens  | 17. <i>The Color Purple</i> by Alice Walker                     |
| <b>8. <i>Invisible Man</i> by Ralph Ellison*</b> | 18. <i>The Poisonwood Bible</i> by Barbara Kingsolver           |
| 9. <i>Jane Eyre</i> by Charlotte Bronte          | 19. <i>The Sound and the Fury</i> by William Faulkner           |
| 10. <i>Kindred</i> by Octavia E. Butler          | 20. <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> by Zora Neale Hurston   |

***\*Invisible Man* has appeared the most often on the AP Lit exam.**

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**Please email me if you have questions or need any help.  
I check my email throughout the summer and will try to respond promptly.**