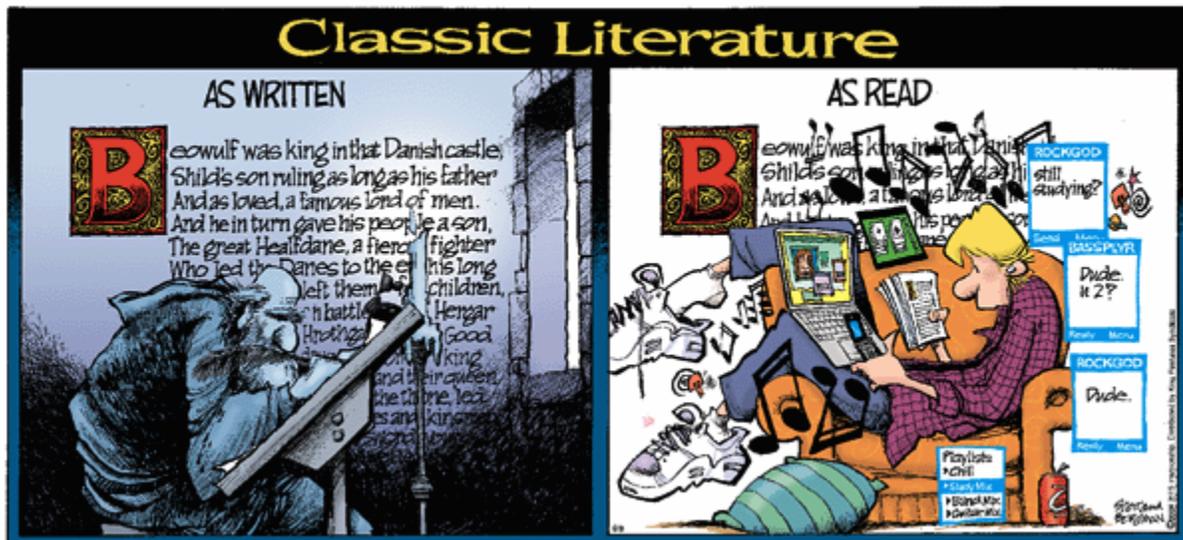


AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION SUMMER READING

2021-2022 School Year

ZITS

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The AP Literature and Composition course is intended to prepare students with the skills earned in an introductory college literature and writing course. The curriculum is targeted to equip students with the critical reasoning skills to form text-based arguments on characterization, setting, genre conventions, narration, and figurative language. Over the course of the school year, we will deconstruct works of fiction, drama, and poetry to best prepare you in mastering these skills.

In order to best prepare you for the final AP Examination, you will need to cover some of the material on your own before we gather in the fall. Namely, **you will read three works this summer**: a required introductory work on common themes and contexts of literature, a work of fiction, and a drama.

For each reading, you will be asked to complete an assignment outlined below each selection list. These assignments are meant to aid you in (1) providing material you can reference when preparing for the AP Exam, (2) supplying you with references for in-class discussions, (3) giving you a head start on the first assignment of the fall semester which will be based off these readings.

Please note: Since AP English Literature is a college-level course and the books on these lists contain college-level reading material. Some of the books include graphic situations, violence, and language, which some may consider offensive. Please read a brief synopsis and reviews for these works, and then choose for yourself. You are free to make selections that are appropriate for you and your comfort level.

Reading 1: Required Reading

Foster, Thomas. [How to Read Literature Like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines](#). Perineal, 2014.

This work will cover major themes, symbols, and contexts present in classical and contemporary literature. It will be a text we build on all semester and it will prepare you for what to be aware of when you read our other works. Because of this, ***I recommend you read this one first.***

Assignment 1:

For each chapter, you will want to answer the following:

- (1) The chapter's main point
- (2) A quote that you feel demonstrates the main point of the chapter
- (3) One thing you learned
- (4) One thing that confused you/you want to think about further

Reading 2: Choose ONE of the following works of fiction.

Voltaire. *Candide*.

Brontë, Charlotte. *Jane Eyre*.

Hemingway, Ernest. *The Sun Also Rises*.

Walker, Alice. *The Color Purple*.

Allende, Isabel. *The House of the Spirits*.

Kingsolver, Barbara. *The Poisonwood Bible*.

Assignment 2:

- (1) Keep a list of major characters, noting the following:
 - a. Physical description
 - b. Personality description
 - c. Driving desire (what is it they want?)
 - d. Purpose served in the text
 - i. Are they a foil? The main character? The way the protagonist learns about something else? Essentially, *why are they there? Why did the author include them?*
 - e. 3-5 important quotes about/from the character + page number
- (2) Important settings (pages + quote describing)
- (3) Central Themes or Ideas (relevant quotes + pages)
- (4) Examples of figurative language
- (5) What is the novel's climax (the central conflict/moment the story builds to)? Why do you think this?

Reading 3: Choose ONE of the following dramas.

Wilde, Oscar. *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

Ablee, Edward. *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*.

Miller, Arthur. *Death of a Salesman*.

Williams, Tennessee. *The Glass Menagerie*.

Sartre, Jean-Paul. *No Exit*.

Beckett, Samuel. *Waiting for Godot*.

Assignment 3:

- (1) Keep a list of major characters, noting the following:
 - a. Descriptions (age, temperament, voice cues, etc.)
 - b. Driving desire (what is it they want?)
 - c. Purpose served in the text
 - i. Are they a foil? The main character? The way the protagonist learns about something else? Essentially, *why are they there? Why did the author include them?*
 - d. 3-5 important quotes about/from the character + page number
- (2) Important settings (pages + quote describing)
- (3) Central Themes or Ideas (relevant quotes + pages)
- (4) What important symbols are there? What do you think they mean?
- (5) What is the play's climax (the central conflict/moment the story builds to)? Why do you think this?