



# AP Literature & Composition

## Summer Reading 2019-20

The AP English Literature and Composition course engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of literature. The course is designed to provide students with the challenges and workload consistent with a typical undergraduate English Literature or Humanities course.

You will be preparing for in-depth analysis of literature by completing two challenging, yet relevant summer reading assignments. We will be discussing these texts together the first few weeks of class, and you will write your first essay on your selected dystopian choice novel.

### Assignments

**Assignment #1:** *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster

#### READ THIS TEXT FIRST

The goal this year is to equip you to use the language of literature, or the “language of reading” as Foster calls it, so that you can discuss literature in a nuanced, analytical, and insightful manner. This reading will help you get started identifying patterns, commonly used themes, and technical methods used by writers that all readers should know in order to gain a deeper understanding.

#### -Note Taking Assignment

You must take notes on the Introduction and each Chapter of the text. After you take notes, provide an example that relates to that chapter from a novel that you have read in the past. (If you struggle, you may analyze a film, but the majority of your entries should come from previous readings).

**Make a copy of the following GoogleDoc, complete the notes, and be prepared to share it with me the first day of class. [H2RLit Notes GoogleDoc](#)**

#### Assignment #2: Dystopian Choice Novel

Dystopian literature is a genre of fictional writing used to explore social and political structures characterized by unpleasant, oppressive societies, often propagandized as being utopian. This type of literature has been a popular science fiction genre, but also a tool for authors to make commentary and criticize their own society. Choose **ONE** of the following novels:

##### CLASSICS:

*1984* by George Orwell  
*Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley  
*Anthem* by Ayn Rand  
*Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury  
*Cat's Cradle* by Kurt Vonnegut

##### CONTEMPORARY:

*Never Let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro  
*Parable of the Sower* by Octavia Butler  
*Oryx & Crake* by Margaret Atwood  
*Station Eleven* by Emily St. John Mandel  
*The Circle* by Dave Eggers

#### -Double Entry Journal Assignment (Minimum of 20 quotes and 8 pages!)

A double entry journal (D.E.J.) is an excellent way to record thoughts, inferences, analysis, devices, and questions while reading a text. A D.E.J. contains 2 columns: textual evidence on the left (including MLA parenthetical citation) & responses/insights on the right. More explanation and a model is provided for you in the GoogleDoc.

**\*\*You must make at least 10 connections to *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* in your journal!\*\***

**Make a copy of the following GoogleDoc, complete the notes, and be prepared to share it with me the first day of class. [D.E.J. GoogleDoc](#)**

This assignment is my first impression of you as an AP student. It should be **completed thoughtfully** over the course of the summer, **NOT LAST MINUTE** merely to get it done. **Students must also be responsible for their own individual work.** You may not work with another student on the assignment, steal notes off the internet, or copy from *Cliff Notes*, *Spark Notes*, *Shmoop* etc.

**Plagiarism will result in a zero for the assignment.**