

Dear Future AP English Literature and Composition/ Dual Enrollment English 111 Students,

Congratulations on completing the 2023-2024 school year. While I'd love to jump right into AP Lit/DE English 111, I think we all need the rest and refreshment that summer will bring. For now, we will focus on starting strong with a meaningful summer reading experience. This summer, I'd like you to read the following:

1. **DO THIS FIRST:** *How to Read Literature Like a Professor for Kids* by Thomas C. Foster. As you read, I'd like you to keep a notebook that contains a handwritten outline of each chapter, except for chapter 19. Since we're reading the Young Reader's Edition of the text, each chapter outline should only be about one page long. Focus on key concepts. Unless it is helpful to you, do not feel compelled to include the examples in the outline.

2. Read at least one of the novellas listed below. Before you make your selection, read reviews of each novella, and consider your interest level. Please be aware that some of the listed texts contain strong language and mature subject matter. As you read, consider what you learned from *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*, and take notes on character, setting, plot, symbolism, and theme. Make note of the connections you see between Foster's text and your chosen novella. Be prepared to discuss your novella when you return to school.

- *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin
- *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck
- *Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton
- *The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka
- *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens
- *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan
- *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemmingway
- *We Have Always Lived in the Castle* by Shirley Jackson
- *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *The Island of Dr. Moreau* by H.G. Wells
- *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros

*I'm looking forward to reviewing your notebooks during the first week of classes!

2. You should read a **minimum of 1,000 pages** for this class. In addition to reading the two assigned works, you should also select an additional book or two that you'd like to read. All of the books, HTRLLAP, your novella, and your additional books, must total at least 1,000 pages. No written work is required for these additional texts; just read what you would enjoy and complete the regular summer reading form.

I will be praying for you this summer – that your rest will be restorative, that your work will be fulfilling, and that your relationship with the Lord will be vibrant. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or want a book recommendation!

Blessings,

Mrs. Witherow

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