
April 20, 2017

Dear Honors English 12 Student:

As part of your preparation for next year's honors English 12 class, you are expected to read the following:

Choose one of the following:

1. Khaled Hosseini's *The Kite Runner* (ISBN: 978-1594631931)
2. Ernest Gaines' *A Lesson Before Dying* (ISBN: 0375702709)

Mandatory Reading:

1. **Selected chapters from** Thomas C. Foster's *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* (ISBN: 006000942X)

The books will help with understanding literature often found on the AP Composition and Literature tests, and are a part of the themes we will delve into this year. The books can be found in any bookstore. Please use online stores like Amazon, Books-a-million, or Barnes and Noble to purchase the text. **It is strongly suggested that you buy BOTH books, so you can write in it and refer to it throughout the year.** The texts will be the basis of your essay assignments. You will both have to write essays on the features themselves, as well as use them in comparison with other readings we have throughout the year.

*For The Kite Runner or A Lesson Before Dying, please complete the dialectical journal attachment while you read the entire text. Do not make any markings or highlighting in your book, as we will use this text again in re-teaching annotation. **All answers to the 3 sections must be handwritten.***

*For How to Read Literature Like a Professor, please **write a one-page response for each prompt** (see attached). Please **handwrite each response on lined paper and label each with your name and the prompt number you are responding to.***

Read only the following sections from *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* listed on the following page. *The assignment can be found on the School Counseling website. If you can't find it, please email me.

Please note the summer work is due on September 15, 2017. Under no circumstance, should your work be plagiarized by looking on a website or working with others as a group. **Plagiarizing will result in a zero for summer reading. Absolutely no late work is permitted.** Both of these books will be studied throughout the year. If you have any questions over the summer, please do not hesitate to email me at elstains@henrico.k12.va.us. Please be sure to use formal language and introduce yourself. In the subject line, please write "AP English 12 Summer Reading Question."

I look forward to our year together, and I hope we start off on the right foot by excelling at summer reading.

Sincerely,

Emily Stains
English Department Leader
Varina High School
(804) 226-8700

Please print these papers and handwrite your responses. Remember, copying anyone's work word for word is plagiarism and will result in a ZERO.

Assignment 1: *The Kite Runner* Dialectical Journal

Mandatory Selection: Dialectical Journal

Assignment Expectations

For *The Kite Runner*, you will complete a Dialectical Journal for each chapter. Your chart should have three columns. Each chapter requires 3 quotes.

- a. **The chart below is a guide.**
- b. **Detailed charts are important and symbolism/quotes are vital to your success.**
- c. **Don't skip the description/significance items on the chart and remember to document the pages you found the quotes/info.**
- d. **Feel free to use story guides online (like Spark Notes or Litcharts.com) for your selection support, however PLAGIARISM will result in a failing grade.**

When should you write passages down?

- **Details that seem important to you**
- **You have an epiphany**
- **You learn something significant about a character**
- **You recognize a pattern (overlapping images, repetitions of idea, details, etc.)**
- **You agree or disagree with something a character says or does**
- **You find support of the theme**
- **You find an interesting or potentially significant quotation**
- **You notice something important or relevant about the writer's style**
- **You notice effective use of literary devices**
- **DO NOT SUMMARIZE! We are all reading the same novel.**

Evidence (Include Page)	Commentary -	Analysis –
Directions: This is the direct quote from the book that you are going to analyze.	<p>(Context –What is going on in the story? Underlined or BLUE)</p> <p>(Literary Elements –Simile, metaphor, alliteration, etc Highlighted or RED)</p> <p>(Significance –Why did you pick it? Italicized or Orange)</p> <p>(Questions/Connections – Bolded or GREEN)</p> <p>* Be sure to create a key!</p>	Directions: Why did the author include this passage? What did it do?
Quote 1:		
Quote 2:		
Quote 3:		

Please print these papers and handwrite your responses. Remember, copying anyone's work word for word is plagiarism and will result in a ZERO.

Chapter:

Evidence (Include Page)	Commentary - (Context – Underlined or BLUE) (Literary Elements – Highlighted or RED) (Significance – Italicized or Orange) (Questions/Connections – Bolded or GREEN)	Analysis - Why did the author include this passage? What did it do?
“Okonkwo did not have the start in life which many young men had.” Page 16 and 18 (chapter 3)	Okonkwo is remembering his father and a visit they had to Agbala. Repetition is used. Due to the fact that it is repeated, it emphasizes that Okonkwo is truly a self-made man. What did men start with? Money? Wives? Land?	The author includes this passage to create sympathy and caring for the main character. It should be known that he started from nothing to reach to the heights of success for his community.

Assignment #2: Foster’s *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* Journals

*Please write a 1-page hand-written (front only) response to the following prompts:

Introduction: How'd He Do That?

How do memory, symbol, and pattern affect the reading of literature? How does the recognition of patterns make it easier to read complicated literature? Discuss a time when your appreciation of a literary work was enhanced by understanding symbol or pattern.

Chapter 1 -- Every Trip Is a Quest (Except When It's Not)

List the five aspects of the QUEST and then apply them to something you have read (or viewed) in the form used on pages 3-5.

Chapter 10 -- It's More Than Just Rain or Snow

Discuss the importance of weather in a specific literary work, not in terms of plot.

Chapter 15 -- Flights of Fancy

Select a literary work in which flight signifies escape or freedom. Explain in detail.

Chapter 19 -- Geography Matters...

Discuss at least four different aspects of a specific literary work that Foster would classify under "geography."

Please print these papers and handwrite your responses. Remember, copying anyone's work word for word is plagiarism and will result in a ZERO.

Chapter 20 -- ...So Does Season

Find a poem that mentions a specific season. Then discuss how the poet uses the season in a meaningful, traditional, or unusual way. (Submit a copy of the poem with your analysis.)

Interlude -- One Story

Write your own definition for archetype. Then identify an archetypal story and apply it to a literary work with which you are familiar.