

Summer Reading Assignments

AP LIT

WARNING: *If the assignments are not completed on time, are incomplete, and or plagiarism is detected there is a possibility you may be asked to be placed in the appropriate alternative English class. All assignments are due on the first day of class. Be prepared to be tested on the reading material the first week of school.*

AP Literature and Composition is an introductory college-level literary analysis course. Students will cultivate their understanding of literature through reading and analyzing texts as they explore concepts like character, setting, structure, perspective, figurative language, and literary analysis in fiction. Students will apply their understanding of these concepts to add deeper meaning to their reading of the texts and become more aware of the effects of language. More information about the course will be on the syllabus.

Required Summer Text

- *How to Read Literature like a Professor*
 - o I would prefer for you to acquire a hard copy of this novel. However, if you are unable to here is the PDF: [How to Read Literature Like a Professor Revised](#)
- *The Hunger Games: Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes* by Suzanne Collins

Assignment Details

- While reading *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*, you will create a **detailed outline** of the information presented in each chapter. Following your outline of each chapter, you will include a **three-sentence minimum personal response**—this can be a connection to something you have read in the past, what you found most interesting in the chapter and why, etc. A sample outline and response of the first chapter will be provided below. Use this as a guide for your outlines and responses to the rest of the chapters, but if this doesn't work for you please organize the information in a way that is helpful. *This will be typed and turned in through canvas on the first day of class.*
- While reading the *Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes*, you will have to answer discussion questions, for an essay that we will write together in class (you do not have to write this essay over the summer)! Discussion Questions will be turned in through a Canvas

dropbox that will open on the first day of school. While answering the discussion questions, please keep in mind what you learned from Foster's *How to Read Literature like a Professor*.

Sample Outline/Response of Chapter 1, *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*

Chapter 1—Every Trip is a Quest (Except When It's Not)

I. The Quest includes

- a. a quester--a person who goes on a quest (and usually doesn't know)
- b. a place to go
- c. a stated reason to go there
 - i. often b and c happen at the same time
 - ii. someone tells the protagonist to go somewhere and do something
- d. challenges and trials en route
- e. a real reason to go there
 - i. the real reason for a quest never involves the stated reason
 - ii. the real reason for a quest is always self-knowledge

II. Reason for Quest = Self-Knowledge

- a. Questers are often young, inexperienced, immature, sheltered
 - i. more likely to have a long way to go to gain self-knowledge
- b. Example Texts
 - i. *Crying of Lot 49*—a young, unhappy woman goes to Southern California where she's been made executor of a will, encounters dangerous people, a rampage, conspiracy, and realizes she cannot rely on men and begins to rely on herself
 - i. *Huck Finn*
 - ii. *The Lord of the Rings*
 - iii. *North by Northwest*
 - iv. *Star Wars*

III. A Word of Warning

- a. Not everything is a quest—don't assume
 - i. Pay attention, just to see, if a journey is a quest

Discussion Questions: Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes

- These responses should be minimum of one paragraph and include textual evidence. Keep in mind the more detailed your answers, the easier it will be to write your essay.

- For your essay you can choose to analyze either Coriolanus **or** Lucy Gray Baird.
- Total of 24 available points. [Click here for a more precise scoring guide.](#)
- Format requirements: **Everything you turn in should be typed in Times New Roman using 12 pt. font.** Please format your discussion questions by the section of which they appear.
- **Introduction to the Characters and Initial Impressions**
 1. What are the initial characteristics and motivations of Coriolanus and Lucy Gray?
 - a. INSERT ANSWER
 2. How do the opening scenes set the stage for their personal journeys?
 - a. INSERT ANSWER

Early Influences and Backgrounds

1. Briefly describe the early influences on Lucy Gray and Coriolanus. How do their pasts shape their present actions?
2. In what ways are their identities influenced by their environments?

Shifts in Identity

1. List and briefly describe the events that cause significant shifts in Lucy Gray Baird and Coriolanus's identities.
2. How do their perceptions of themselves and their roles in society change?

Conflicts and Internal Struggles

1. What are the main internal conflicts both characters faces? How do these conflicts influence their respective actions and decisions?

Rebellion and Transformation

1. How do acts of rebellion shape Lucy Gray Baird and Coriolanus's identities?
2. What transformations do they undergo as a result of their actions?

Climax, Resolution, and Reflection

1. How do the climaxes and resolutions of each novel reflect the final state of the protagonists' identities?

2. Briefly describe where both characters started, and where they ended up.