

Advanced Placement English IV  
Summer Reading Assignments  
New Albany High School  
2010

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TEXTS: *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster  
*1984* by George Orwell

MATERIALS: One small 3-ring binder, divided into two sections—one section for each novel. Assignments should be neatly hole-punched and placed in the appropriate section. Typed assignments should have 1" margins on all sides, be double-spaced, and be in Times New Roman 12 pt. font.

FYI: The expectation of a good grade on your journals should be effective enough motivation, but I want to advise you that these works will be the basis for future assignments as well. If you choose not to properly complete this work, i.e. not read the actual novels in their entirety, you will be at a severe disadvantage for many additional assignments throughout the year. Each of the assignments below will be graded separately.

WARNING! \*Plagiarism is a serious academic offense and will result in a grade of "0". While collaborating with others in the class to discuss the book is acceptable, you should complete all assignments independently.

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ASSIGNMENTS FOR *HOW TO READ LITERATURE LIKE A PROFESSOR*:

1. As you read the novel, be an active reader--mark, highlight, or make notes as you see fit so that you may more easily find specific passages. You will also complete a dialectical journal for the book as follows:
  - a. Label a cover sheet with your name, the name of the novel, the author's name, and the date.
  - b. Use a ruler to divide subsequent pages neatly into two columns. Label the first column "Quote" and the second "Response".
  - c. Copy quotes from the novel that stand out to you in the first column. Include the page number. Highlight in yellow word(s) or phrase(s) that are of interest.
  - d. In the second column, write an explanation of why you chose this particular quote. Your explanation may be a statement, or it may be a question that the quote brought up for you.

You should have a minimum of thirty entries; these should cover the entirety of the book.

2. In order to be successful in this class, you must be familiar with many styles of writing—i.e., with many writers. By reading this book, you will equip yourself with tools that hopefully will enable you to approach literature differently and more maturely than you have in the past. Before proceeding to new works, however, we should spend some time reflecting on the numerous ones you have already read. This assignment is designed to give you the opportunity to review the novels, plays, poems, essays, and short stories you have read these past three years of high school:

You are to choose twenty of the twenty-seven chapters. Using a new page for each chapter, begin by documenting what you deem to be a representative quote for the topic discussed. Then write a ten- to twelve-sentence paragraph in which you discuss how the topic of the chapter applies to a work you have read. Do not use a work that is documented in the chapter as an illustration. Your discussion should point to a specific character/event/place and should not generalize about the work as a whole. Quotes from any work should, as always, be documented in proper MLA format. Check with me if you would like to use any of your previous literature books or novels over the summer.

While I will not restrict you by saying that you can not use a work more than once, I will strongly suggest that you do not use a work more than twice, upon risk of being penalized on your grade. I realize, for example, that a novel like *Their Eyes Were Watching God* can be applied to very nearly every chapter; however, I am not interested in reading twenty mini-analyses of the same novel. If you do this assignment well, it will benefit you throughout the year in discussing other works.

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ASSIGNMENTS FOR *1984*:

1. As you read the novel, be an active reader--mark, highlight, or make notes as you see fit so that you may more easily find specific passages. You will also complete a dialectical journal for the book as follows:
  - a. Label a cover sheet with your name, the name of the novel, the author's name, and the date.
  - b. Use a ruler to divide subsequent pages neatly into two columns. Label the first column "Quote" and the second "Response".
  - c. Copy quotes from the novel that stand out to you in the first column. Include the page number. Highlight in yellow word(s) or phrase(s) that are of interest.
  - d. In the second column, write an explanation of why you chose this particular quote. Your explanation may be a statement, or it may be a question that the quote brought up for you.

While you are not limited to only these kinds of quotes, you should focus on quotes that provide characterization, give insights into the themes of the novel, or demonstrate the tone. You should have a minimum of fifty entries; these should cover the entirety of the book. You will be using these quotes for an in-class assignment later.

2. The society created by Orwell in *1984* relies on three paradoxes: War is Peace, Freedom is Slavery, and Ignorance is Strength. Write an essay in which you explain how, in Winston's world, these apparent contradictions are logically true. Use quotes from the book in proper MLA format. This essay should be 2-3 typed pages.
3. Another paradox of *1984* is that Oceania's government claims to have created a utopian society, when in fact it is a model dystopia, or negative utopia. Research these terms; then write an essay in which you define both these terms by giving several characteristics of each. Cite your findings using proper MLA documentation. Explain in detail how Orwell's work epitomizes a dystopic novel. Print out any web resources that you use; hole-punch them and place them in your binder. This essay should be 2-3 typed pages.