



First Academy Leesburg

AP Literature Summer Reading 2025-26

Mrs. Michelle Thomas (mthomas@faleesburg.com)

While working through summer reading, please feel free to email me with questions you may have. Know that I will be spending a great deal of time with my family this summer and will only check my email a few times a week. But have no fear—I will get back to you. 😊

As you work on your summer reading, use fully expressed ideas to finish all of the following assignments. In other words, advanced placement classes are conducted at a collegiate level. Your ideas should not be expressed in sentence fragments or with unsupported assertions. **Assignment is due the first day of class.** Extended time will be given to those registering late.

“Previous research has shown that children who do not read in the summer lose two to three months of reading development a year, while students who do read gain a month of reading proficiency. The result is a three- to four-month gap every year, which will snowball into a 1 ½--year gap between the time children complete kindergarten and the time they finish fifth grade.”
Dr. Richard L. Allington

Assignment #1

Read [How to Read Literature Like a Professor for Kids](#) by Thomas C. Foster (ISBN: 978-06-220085-3) And YES – always read the introduction! And YES – read the Interlude!

1. As you read *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* you will need to keep a reading journal identifying points in the book which stand out to you as significant statements.
2. Please follow the format below to create a Google Doc. Your journal **MUST BE TYPED, MLA format**. You will write a minimum of **fifteen entries** from places throughout the book.
3. Remember—This is a collegiate level course, therefore your reactions are **expected** to be written at that same level.
4. If you wish, you can email me for a pre-formatted Google Doc to use for this assignment.
5. You do NOT need to print this. There will be a Google CR turn-in available on the first day of class.

Page #	Chapter	Significant Statement	Your Reaction—How will this help you better understand the literature you read?
xiv	Intro.	<i>Okay, let's say you're right and there is a set of conventions, a key to reading literature. How do I get so I can recognize these?</i> Same way you get to Carnegie Hall. Practice.	A person who has never run a lap around a track cannot expect to run a marathon without having trained for it. In the same way, we cannot expect to read literature like a professor without practice. The more we read, the better we understand the message the author is attempting to convey to the reader.

Assignment #2

You are required to choose one book from the list below to read. That's it. All you have to do is read the book and have your parent sign the form at the bottom of this page signifying you completed your reading. This form **MUST** be signed to get credit for the assignment.

OPTIONAL: If you read a SECOND book you will receive:

- 50-point extra credit score averaged in for the 1st 9 weeks
- 1 dress down day pass
- 1 homework pass

*****Please note that BOTH, Assignments #1 and #2 MUST be completed in order to receive extra credit for a second book from the list below.**

AP students must choose from the list below. The books should NOT have been read before. If you have a specific request, feel free to email me and ask.

- *1984* by George Orwell
- *A Farewell to Arms* by Ernest Hemingway
- *A Separate Peace* by John Knowles
- *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins
- *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate
- *Candide* by Voltaire
- *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman
- *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley
- *Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck
- *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens
- *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen
- *Sense and Sensibility* by Jane Austen
- *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin
- *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett
- *The Lord of the Flies* by William Golding
- *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe
- *To Kill A Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

Parents must sign the bottom portion of this letter for students to turn in on the first day of school.

In order to receive credit for Assignment #2 and/or extra credit for the SECOND book read, this must be signed by all parties and turned in by the first day of school, without exception unless prior consent has been given by Mrs. Iseminger.

I, _____, attest to the fact that _____ read _____ book(s) from the list above this summer.

Book #1 Title and Author: _____

EC Book #2 Title and Author: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Printed Name: _____

I, _____, attest to the fact that I read _____ book(s) from the list above this summer.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____