

## Summer Reading – English IV Honors

Critical reading is paramount to success in Honors English. You must be a reader this summer, and your reading will contribute to your success in class this coming school year.

All students entering English IV Honors must read *How to Read Literature Like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines*, as well as *Fools and Mortals: A Novel*; however, I encourage you to read more.

**NOTE about purchasing your books: All of these titles are available at Barnes & Noble. Half Price Books and Amazon.com have these titles, too. E-books are permissible as long as you are able to annotate. Keep in mind that audiobooks cannot be annotated.**

**1. Required: *How to Read Literature Like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines* – Thomas C. Foster – (ISBN: 9780062301673)** In a Word document, create notes that reflect the important ideas covered in each of the following chapters:

- The Intro: “How’d He Do That?” - just for an overview of what the book is over.
- Ch. 1: “Every Trip is a Quest”
- Ch. 4: “If It’s Square, It’s a Sonnet”
- Ch. 5: “Now, Where Have I Seen Her Before?”
- Ch. 6: “When in Doubt, It’s from Shakespeare . . . ”
- Ch. 7: “. . . Or the Bible”
- Ch. 12: “Is That a Symbol?”
- Ch. 13: “It’s All Political”
- Ch. 14: “Yes, She’s a Christ Figure, Too”
- Ch. 19: “Geography Matters”
- Ch. 21: “Marked for Greatness”
- Ch. 26: “Is He Serious? And Other Ironies”
- One additional chapter of your choice!

**2. Required: *Fools and Mortals: A Novel* – Bernard Cornwell – (9780062250896)** You are required to *annotate* this book. Annotating is having a conversation with the book as you read. Making notes in the margins or on sticky notes that show your questioning, thinking, and wonderings will help with comprehension and your ability to analyze. These notes will also enhance your ability to contribute to discussions in class about your reading this summer.

Annotations can be made in several ways. Use a method that works best for you personally and that also meets the requirements for annotating below.

### **Suggestions:**

- If you buy your own copy of the books, you can simply underline/highlight/write directly in the book. Be sure to explain in the margin why you underlined, highlighted, etc.
- If you prefer not to write in the book, you can use sticky notes attached to the passage you are annotating and write on the sticky notes. Sticky notes **MUST** have writing on them so the reason for placing the note is clear.
- You may also create a document (by hand or typed) with your annotations and page numbers you are responding to. Again, be sure you explain why you have listed these annotations.

### **In your annotations, you must note the following:**

1. **Character:** Follow the main character through the book. Note at least 10 passages that effectively develop/explain that character's personality, motivations, internal conflicts, etc.
2. **Theme(s):** Note at least three passages that clearly communicate the author's message(s) to the reader about life or the world as a whole.
3. **Plot Structure and Conflict:** Mark the 10 most significant plot points in the book, particularly noting events that introduce or resolve major conflicts. Be sure one of the notes specifically identifies the plot climax.
4. **Literary Style:** Find 10 particularly beautiful or unusual sentences in the book and note what it is about those sentences that appeals to you.

*Remember: annotations for the novel are in addition to your notes for How to Read Literature Like a Professor. I hope you enjoy your reading and come to class ready to share your thoughts about these books.*