

June 2021

Dear English 4 Honors and Concurrent Enrollment Student,

Congratulations! You are now officially a senior. I hope you take the time to enjoy your summer break and return to school invigorated and energized for a great year. To prepare for Honors English 4 or Concurrent Enrollment English, we have chosen to give you a two part study that will include one informational text and two novels.

We have included links to full online versions of texts no longer under copyright protection, but you may purchase your own copies of the texts should you choose. Many of the titles are also available for free through Amazon in a Kindle friendly format and all titles are available at the Somerset County Library.

Part 1 - Informational Text: Read four chapters of your choice from [How to Read Literature Like a Professor](#) by Thomas C. Foster. Take notes on the basic concept each chapter discusses. You do NOT need to take notes on every example given.

Part 2 - Novel Study: You will choose ONE novel from list A and ONE novel from list B.

List A	List B
Pride & Prejudice--Jane Austen	The Age of Innocence--Edith Wharton
Tess of the D'Urbervilles--Thomas Hardy	The Handmaid's Tale--Margaret Atwood
Great Expectations--Charles Dickens	Their Eyes Were Watching God--Zora Neale Hurston

While reading you should annotate your copy of the text or keep a notebook of your thoughts. Your focus should be to apply the concepts you read about in [How to Read Literature Like a Professor](#) to the novels you choose. Also, make note of what each author reveals about the human condition or experience with an emphasis on the societal expectations, gender differences, and societal power structures. Your notes should go beyond plot summary and character lists; they should indicate thoughtful reflection on the novel and the concepts presented.

Discussions on the novels and readings will occur during the first month of school. Be prepared to be formally (quizzes, reading logs, forums, essays) and informally (class discussions) assessed upon returning to school according to your individual teacher's designs.

For those of you who would like some additional preparation, I suggest reading all of *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*.

Please remember that this assignment is in addition to the whole school choice reading and assignment.

Happy reading,
HHS English Department