

2024-2025 ENGLISH IV HONORS SUMMER READING

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Welcome to English IV Honors! I am honored and excited to have this journey with you as you conclude your high school career. All of the skills you will learn in this class, including closely interpreting and critically analyzing texts and developing techniques to improve your writing, are skills you will use for a lifetime. In order to meet the demands of an Honors course, we must continue our study of literature and keep our minds sharp for next year. I hope you find the tasks below as interesting and worthwhile as I do. My goal is for you to become more proficient readers, writers, and thinkers, and the following tasks will help do just that.

TASK 1:

Read [How to Read Literature Like a Professor by Thomas Foster](#). I have included a link to an **abridged** version here, which covers the concepts sufficiently for our purposes. **YOU MUST READ THIS TEXT BEFORE YOU READ YOUR FICTION SELECTION.** This important nonfiction text is paramount to your success in this class. This book is a beneficial tool for developing the analytical and critical reading skills required to do well in this course. We will refer to it constantly throughout the school year, making the reading we do throughout the course easier to understand.

TASK 2:

Pick **ONE** novel listed below. Read and annotate it keeping Foster's ideas in mind. I have included links to online pdf versions of the novel. You may use these or a hard copy of the text.

- [Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen \(1813\)](#): A novel of manners that follows the character development of Elizabeth Bennet as she learns about the repercussions of hasty judgments and comes to appreciate the difference between superficial goodness and actual goodness.
- [Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson \(1886\)](#): A gothic novella about a London lawyer named Gabriel John Utterson who investigates strange occurrences between his old friend, Dr. Henry Jekyll and the evil Mr. Edward Hyde
- [The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde \(1891\)](#): A devastating portrait of the effects of evil and debauchery on a young man in late-19th-century England
- [Animal Farm by George Orwell \(1945\)](#): A satirical allegory that explores the Russian Revolution and the subsequent rise of Stalinism that tells the story of a group of anthropomorphic farm animals who rebel against their human farmer
- [The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood \(1985\)](#): A futuristic dystopian novel set in a near-future New England in a patriarchal, totalitarian state known as the Republic of Gilead, which has overthrown the United States government

TASK 3:

After you have read both books, apply what you learned from Foster to your chosen novel. You will select **four** of Foster's chapters to apply to your Task 2 novel. You will write a paragraph for each chapter you choose applying the concepts from *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* to your Task 2 choice novel. This assignment will be due on **Sunday, September 2, 2024, by 11:59 PM.**

Requirements:

- Four fully-developed (6-sentence minimum) paragraphs about **four different** chapters of Foster's novel
- Each paragraph should include **TWO** quotes (properly cited in MLA format) from your task 2 novel to support your analysis
- MLA formatted
- Typed
- Times New Roman, 12-point font
- Double-spaced
- Parenthetical Citations - (Author's Last Name Page Number)

Be prepared for a test on *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* **AND** your task 2 book in the first few weeks of school!