

Farragut High School

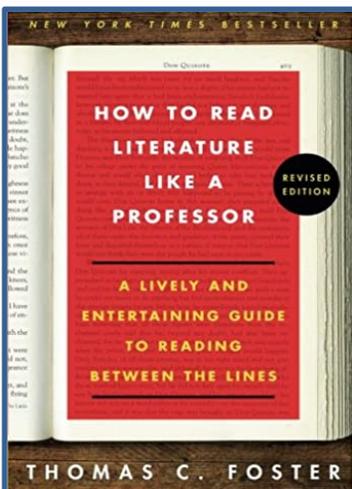
English I Honors Summer/Outside Reading 2020-2021

As English I Honors students, freshmen are required to read two books (nonfiction and fiction) in preparation for the course.

- ✓ ***How to Read Literature Like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines* by Thomas C. Foster**, serves simply as a resource for recognizing and analyzing patterns in literature. This text will be used not only in ninth grade but also throughout high school. Therefore, familiarize yourself with the patterns that Foster identifies and outlines, but do not worry about reading it as closely as the fiction selection. Certainly, Foster's book will be helpful as you read the second required book, the modern novel *Fahrenheit 451*. English I students only need to read Chapters 1-10.
- ✓ ***Fahrenheit 451***, our fiction selection, should be read closely to prepare for assessments (including possible literary circle discussions, objective exams, and essays) in the first weeks of the semester. We will apply Foster's ideas to our discussion of *Fahrenheit 451*, so let *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* guide your reading of Bradbury's novel.

Whether you take English 9 Honors or English 9 Honors/World History Combined, you will read these books, and your teacher will provide important assessment dates in the first days of class. If the school year is not altered, books need to be read/reviewed by 9/8 in the fall and by 1/19 in the spring. If you are enrolled in English 9 Honors for the second semester, remember that you must read and/or review the titles prior to your semester. Regardless of your scheduled semester, you should have read the novel **before** the semester begins.

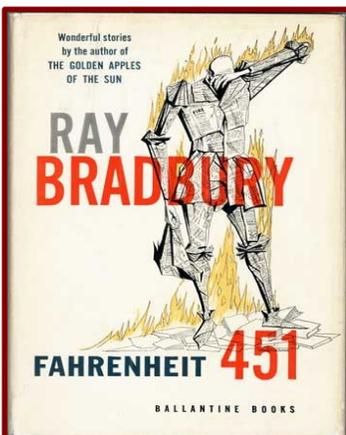
Nonfiction Selection: *How to Read Literature Like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines* by Thomas C. Foster (English I students only need to read Introduction and Chapters 1-10.)



“Most professional students of literature learn to take in the foreground details while seeing what the detail reveals. Experience has proved to them that life and books fall into similar patterns. Nor is this skill exclusive to English professors.”

--Foster

Fiction Selection: *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury*



“Books were only one type of receptacle where we stored a lot of things we were afraid we might forget. There is nothing magical in them at all. The magic is only in what books say, how they stitched the patches of the Universe together into one garment for us.”

--Bradbury

*KCS-Approved Text (contains language and content). Alternate titles will be provided at parents' request.

Annotation

Annotation involves a careful, critical, active reading of a text, so you are encouraged to buy a paper copy of the novel. Write (annotate) in the actual book. You can highlight important passages, quotations, or patterns (based on Foster's book). Keep track of characters and important plot elements. You may choose to take notes in the margins or on post-it notes, index cards, or notebook paper. Putting in the work as you read will be very helpful when we begin discussion and assessments, especially if you do not have English until second semester.

Literary Analysis

Consider the following topics as you read *Fahrenheit 451*. Approaching a text with a purpose will make your reading more focused and beneficial, so consider the following topics:

- ✓ **Characterization:** Consider and note passages that demonstrate strong characterization. How do these stages of character development contribute to text as a whole (theme)?
- ✓ **Plot:** Consider passages that contain the most pivotal moments in the plot. What makes these moments essential in revealing the novel's theme?
- ✓ **Setting:** Consider the major times and locations of the novel. How do these settings influence the characterization, conflict, plot, and/or theme?
- ✓ **Style (diction, syntax):** Consider passages that have the most effective language. How do these passages help create meaning? Why are these word choices (diction) and sentence structures (syntax) effective?
- ✓ **Motifs:** A **motif** is the purposeful recurrence of an element in literature (symbol, idea, character, *etc.*). Look for patterns or repeating ideas in the novel (communication, heredity, companionship, fate, *etc.*). What are the patterns and ideas that contribute to theme?

Assessment

Please read with these possible upcoming assessments in mind:

- ✓ Multiple Choice Exam-100 points
- ✓ Formal and/or In-Class Writings- ~200 points
- ✓ Circle Discussion and/or Group Presentation -100 points

**“Everything is a symbol of something, it seems,
until proven otherwise.”**

--Thomas C. Foster

**“I don't talk things, sir.
I talk the meaning of things.”**

--Ray Bradbury