

Summer Reading: English I Honors 2018-2019

This upcoming school year, students can expect to be introduced to reading literature for a deeper meaning. Rather than reading literature merely on a surface level (which characters do what actions), the honors students will begin learning how to look beyond the general plotlines and how to “read between the lines.” In order to prepare them for this new experience, each honors student should read each of the following titles in their entirety and complete the following assignment prior to the first day of school:

How to Read Literature Like a Professor by Thomas C. Foster

This title is recommended – NOT required!! How to Read Literature Like a Professor, by Thomas C. Foster, is a lively and entertaining “how-to” manual for reading literature beyond the surface level story, allowing the reader some insight into the deeper meaning. This book explores a wide variety of literary devices that authors often employ, many of which are explored in the freshman and sophomore Honors English classes. Some may find chapters 16 & 17 of the book objectionable due to the fact that they deal with the symbolism of sexuality in literature, but be rest assured that neither of these chapters is assigned, nor will they be discussed in class. If you choose to read portions of this text during the summer, the majority of the literary analysis work during the English I Honors will focus on chapters 1, 2, 5, 12, 13, 14, 19, 25 & 26.

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

This book should be read in its entirety—there may be a test on the selection the first week of class. The class will engage in meaningful discussion about the Book Thief, so all students should arrive prepared to participate.

Students will complete a dialectical journal for this book. The instructions follow. This is a project/test grade. This will set the tone for your entire year as an honors student. Please take this into consideration and complete the work on time. Late work is not looked upon favorably and—depending on the teacher—not accepted at all. Following the directions below, please make 20 journal entries evenly distributed throughout the book.

http://www.gertzresslerhigh.org/ourpages/auto/2014/5/23/54166200/Ortiz_Dialectical%20Journal%20Instructions.pdf