Summer Assignments IB SL English Year 1

First of all, I’m so happy that you’ve chosen to take IB SL English! You won’t regret it! :-)
Secondly, let’s talk about the summer assignment. This is designed to help you begin to see
literary texts with a “new set of glasses” so to speak.

We only have one year together, and the class will be analysis heavy. My job is to give you a
strong foundation so that when you go into Year 2 you have nothing but confidence. This
assignment can help you start that path. Here are the details of your assignment:

1. **Purchase, read, and annotate How to Read Literature Like a Professor by Thomas Foster.** Trust me here; this book is a pretty enjoyable read. It’s the foundation for our other texts throughout the year. We will refer back to it often. And let’s talk annotations. Here’s my philosophy on that - annotations are for YOU! I’m not going to ask you to have so many per page, and I won’t take up your books and check your annotations. I’m starting the year trusting that you will indeed annotate. These are your own reflections about what you read.

2. **Read one of the short stories listed below and write a paper in which you analyze the story from the lens of one of Foster’s chapters.** After reading Foster’s book, put what you learned to use. Write an analytical essay in which you apply a chapter/focus of Foster’s book to a short story from the list below. These are easily found online. Your paper should be heavy in analysis, not merely a summary of either text. You will need to identify the text the element(s) from Foster’s book that you will apply to the short story. Your paper should be a minimum of 500 words but no more than 1,000. This paper will be the first time I read your writing, and I’ll be looking for your depth of analysis and understanding. It will be due on our first full day of class.

**Short Stories**

*The Lagoon* by Joseph Conrad  
*The Destructors* by Graham Greene  
*Ligeia* by Edgar Allan Poe  
*The Minister’s Black Veil* by Nathaniel Hawthorne  
*Araby* by James Joyce  
*A Worn Path* by Eudora Welty  
*Roman Fever* by Edith Wharton  
*Man from the South* by Roald Dahl  
*Where are you going, Where Have You Been?* by Joyce Carol Oates  
*A Sound of Thunder* by Ray Bradbury  
*By the Waters of Babylon* by Steven Vincent Benet  
*There Will Come Soft Rains* by Ray Bradbury