

***How To Read Literature Like a Professor/Lord of the Flies***  
**2021 Summer Assignment**  
**Mrs. Waters, AP Literature and Composition**

I. **REVISED** Edition of *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster, and *Lord of the Flies*, any edition. You will need your books with you in class the first week of school. Your understanding of both books is crucial to the first weeks of class--read them.

This is not a “quick” assignment. It takes thinking and reading. I would suggest that you read first and mark it up as you read. It is a fairly quick, not too difficult read. If you’ve read it before, that’s fine. Read it again as we will be analyzing different elements. As you read LotF, annotate for:

- symbols--conch shell, fire, the island, pig’s head, spectacles and more
- allegory
- foreshadowing
- characterization
- irony
- allusions
- archetypes (we will discuss this more in class)

Watch this short Ted Ed, “Why Should You Read *LotF*?” (4:47) <https://youtu.be/NnnZ6y1HPqI>

AP IV is an imaginary literature class--that means we only read (and analyze) fictional pieces. I realize you are transitioning from a rhetoric (mostly non fiction class) to a literature class. I will help you with that journey--that’s my job. This assignment is an important step in that process and *HTRLLAP* will help get you there.

For this assignment, you might want to read the chapters in *HTRLLAP* as you proceed with the assignment. You will be responsible for all chapters in *HTRLLAP*--we will work with it all year, especially when we read *Frankenstein*.

II. This assignment is due on Sunday, August 15, by 11:59 in Canvas. Complete this assignment on a Google Doc so that it is ready to submit to Canvas when school begins. You will want to do this before the first weekend of school when you are feeling tired and overwhelmed--this is a summer reading assignment.

III. You will need to use your CISD Google account to access the link. **If you use the CISD account, you should not need my permission to access the documents.** Get into the habit of using your CISD account this year.

**Directions:**

You can find the assignment at <http://tiny.conroeisd.net/seYzw>

You must be signed into your CISD Google account to access the document.

1. Go to the Google Doc link and recopy the form into your own Google document. Type your answers in **MLA format, with MLA headings. That means 12 point font, Times New Roman.** If you don't remember MLA format, look it up. Use the chapter numbers as headings then type the question and answer as completely as possible. **Be sure to parenthetically cite all concrete examples.** Follow the directions of the question. If it asks for a thoughtful response, give a thoughtful, well-written response--think a TWCP chunk at the least. If it asks for a list, you may list. Just be as thorough as possible. You may single space your answers, but double space between chapters. Be sure to give the chapter # and chapter title in the heading before each answer. Bold these headings. If it's easier, just copy from my document.
2. You need to purchase a hard copy of the Foster book which needs to be the **REVISED** edition, ISBN 978-0-06-230167-3. Used copies are acceptable. I expect that you will mark up your book. This is a good read (really!) and it will start you on your way to literary analysis. We will use it throughout the school year; this is not a "one and done" assignment.
3. You need to purchase a hard copy of *Lord of the Flies* if you do not already own one. Any edition is fine. Again, I expect you to mark up your book. You may use an old copy if you already own one--ie your copy from junior high.
4. You need to include a Works Cited page at the end of this assignment. Look up MLA format. You will need to cite *HTRLLAP* and *Lord of the Flies*. Pay attention to the edition you are using. Look up how to parenthetically cite page numbers from both books. Again, be sure you are following MLA format.
5. **Save this document where you can find it again. You will review this before taking the AP Literature exam in May.**
6. Again, all work should be MLA formatted. Yes, punctuation, spelling, and grammar count. Good thinking and good writing will be rewarded. Do NOT plagiarize. All work should be your own.

Be sure to include the chapter number as a heading before each response. Double space between chapter responses.

**\*\*\*Introduction--How'd He Do That?**

- How do memory, symbol, and pattern affect the reading of literature?
- How does the recognition of patterns make it easier to read complicated literature?

- How much literature have you read in your high school years? What kind of reader are you, what do you like to read? This should be a personal reflection paragraph.

### **Chapter 1—Every Trip is a Quest**

- Apply the five aspects of the quest to *LotF* in the form used on pages 3-5 of Foster's Book.

### **Chapter 2--Nice to Eat with You: Acts of Communion**

- What does communion mean in *LotF*? Are the meal scenes failed meals or productive meals? Explain why and what they mean in the novel.

### **Chapter 3—Nice to Eat You: Acts of Vampirism**

- Apply the concepts of this chapter to *LotF*. Give specific details and page numbers from *LotF*.

### **Chapter 4--Now Where Have I Seen Her Before?**

- Discuss at least three intertextualities and allusions in *LotF*. Why are they important?

### **Chapter 6—Or the Bible**

- Discuss three Biblical allusions in *LotF*. How do they add to your understanding of the novel as a whole?

### **Chapter 9—It's More Than Just Rain or Snow**

- Give three examples of weather in *LotF* and discuss.

### **Chapter 10--Never Stand Next to the Hero**

- What does Foster mean when he says characters are not people? Explain and give an example from *LotF*.

### **Chapter 11--...More than It's Gonna Hurt You: Conquering Violence**

- Choose an act of violence and a death in your novel. Use the information in this chapter and discuss them both. Be sure to include specific details and include page citations.

### **Chapter 12—Is That a Symbol?**

- List three symbols in *LotF* and discuss them in terms of this chapter.

### **Chapter 13—It's All Political**

- Assume that Foster is correct and "It is all political." Use his criteria to show how *LotF* is a political work (think social commentary).

### **Chapter 14—Yes, She's a Christ Figure, Too**

- So, take a major character in your novel and apply Foster's Christ criteria.

### **Chapter 19—Geography Matters...**

- Discuss at least four different aspects of geography in *LotF* and what each means.

### **Chapter 21—Marked for Greatness**

- Identify a character, if any, who has some physical marking in *LotF*. Describe and explain the trait. What does it mean?

### **Chapter 22—He's Blind for a Reason, You Know**

- Discuss blindness in terms of *LotF*.

### **Chapter 24--Don't Read with Your Eyes**

- Choose a scene from *LotF* and contrast how it could be viewed by a reader from the 21st century with how it might be viewed by a reader from a previous time period. Focus on assumptions that the author makes, assumptions that would not be made today. Explain.

### **Chapter 25--It's my Symbol and I'll Cry if I Want To**

- What are some of Foster's types of analyzing symbols? What does he tell you that you know? Apply this to *LotF* and explain.

### **\*\*\*Chapter 26--Is He Serious? And Other Ironies**

- What does Foster say about irony? How can you tell if something is ironic? Explain why this is important in literature and to you as a student of literature.