

2021-2022 Summer Reading
AP Literature and Composition
Wilkeson

Preface

Welcome to AP Lit! This summer, I am asking you to read two books, one instructional and the other literary.

Required Reading

FIRST, everyone must read this book:

How to Read Literature Like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines, Revised Edition by Thomas C. Foster (2014).

This book reveals a lot of “secrets” about how to uncover “deep meaning” when you read great literature. I expect you to be prepared to take a **QUIZ** over the main ideas when you show up the first day, **so know and understand the main idea from each chapter. You may wish to annotate your text with summaries of each chapter in preparation.**

SECOND, everyone must read this classic novel from the literary canon:

Tess of the D'Urbervilles by Thomas Hardy (1891).

Assignment

Annotate the novel to answer the following questions. **Include PAGE NUMBER REFERENCES for each of your responses.**

- 1) Who are the main characters? Describe them. Include at least **three specific adjectives** you would use to describe each one.
- 2) What is the THEME? **Hint:** Remember that THEME is a COMPLETE SENTENCE that reveals the **author's** overarching message about human nature.
- 3) Identify **two PIVOTAL MOMENTS** from the novel that contribute significantly to the novel's THEME. Summarize each passage, citing the chapter. Explain the connection of each moment to the THEME.
- 4) What is the nature of the main CONFLICT? Is it internal, external, or both? Is the conflict resolved or not? How do you know?
- 5) Identify ONE SYMBOL. Explain its meaning using references to the text to support your interpretation.
- 6) Add ANYTHING that you can connect to what you read in Foster's *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* that you haven't included in any of the previous answers.

Format: Use an MLA heading, but single space each answer, double spacing BETWEEN each answer. Be sure to NUMBER each answer.

You may find a new or used copy for a very reasonable price at half.com or amazon.com. I found a used paperback of *Tess* for \$1.45 and HTRLLAP for around \$5. You may piggy-back orders with other students to avoid or reduce shipping costs.

If purchasing a hard copy is not an option for you, I have hard cover copies of *Tess* to LEND, and digital copies of *Tess* are available on iBooks and Kindle free of charge. You can also access *Tess* as a FREE PDF download at GoodReads at https://www.goodreads.com/ebooks/download/32261.Tess_of_the_D_Urbervilles. I highly recommend that you acquire a copy you can freely annotate if at all possible.

Have a fantastic summer, and I'll see you in August! ☺

You may contact me via email with any questions
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*****DO NOT wait until the last minute***
Rushing is a GUARANTEE
that you will not do your best work.**