

11 AP Literature and Composition

2022 Summer Reading Assignment

This summer's reading assignment includes the following two works: *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas Foster, and *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien.

How to Read Literature Like a Professor

Every student will read *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*. Foster's book will not only help you to understand O'Brien's novel, but it will be useful for our study of literature throughout the year. Purchase your own copies of these books as part of the assignment is to annotate as you read. Annotating is extensive highlighted or underlined text with many margin notes. The annotations demonstrate that you have carefully read and considered the text's meaning. The margin notes serve as an abbreviated outline of what the text says and what you think about it.

The Things They Carry

Essay: Please respond to the following prompt in a well written essay, (5-6 paragraphs). Include specific references to the novel, as well as direct quotes.

- Plan the essay thoroughly before you begin writing.
- Write an engaging opening paragraph that reflects the question's requirements.
- Make sure the thesis is mature, clear, and focused.
- Stay on topic and choose strong evidence to prove your thesis.
- Include transitions and words that echo back to your introduction.
- Avoid plot summary. Analyze, do not summarize!

Authors frequently employ specific narrative elements in order to shape their ideas and give form to their overall work. Consider how Tim O'Brien uses point of view deliberately in order to advance the themes that are prevalent within *The Things They Carried*. How, for example, do the choices in point of view contribute to the effective re-telling of the soldiers' war experiences? You may focus, for example, on Kiowa's death or Curt Lemon's death. You may use other instances as well.

AP English Literature and Composition Summer Reading Essay Rubric 2021

CATEGORY	Above Standards	Meets Standards	Approaching Standards	Below Standards	Score
Focus or Thesis Statement	The thesis statement presents a clear, specific and defensible interpretation of the selected work. (20)	The thesis statement presents a somewhat clear and defensible interpretation of the selected work. (18)	The thesis statement presents an interpretation of the selected work, but is not clear and/or defensible. (16)	The thesis statement does not name the topic and does not preview or defend what will be discussed. (14)	
Evidence and Commentary	Provides specific evidence to support all claims in a line of reasoning. AND Consistently explains how the evidence supports a line of reasoning. (20)	Provides specific evidence to support all claims in a line of reasoning. AND Explains how some of the evidence supports a line of reasoning. (18)	Provides some specific, relevant evidence. AND Explains how some of the evidence relates to the student's argument, but no line of reasoning is established, or the line of reasoning is faulty. (16)	Provides evidence that is mostly general. AND Summarizes the evidence but does not explain how the evidence supports the argument. (14)	
Sophistication	Demonstrates sophistication of thought and/or develops a complex literary argument. (20)	Demonstrates somewhat sophistication of thought or develops a complex literary argument. (18)	Sometimes demonstrates sophistication of thought and/or develops a somewhat complex literary argument. (16)	Does NOT demonstrate sophistication of thought and/or develops a complex literary argument. (14)	
Sentence Structure	All sentences are well-constructed with varied structure. (20)	Most sentences are well-constructed and there is some varied sentence structure in the essay. (18)	Most sentences are well constructed, but there is no variation in structure. (16)	Most sentences are not well-constructed or varied. (14)	