

AP English Literature and Composition

Summer Reading 2017-2018

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

This text is a seminal work for the literature and composition course. We will apply the observations Foster makes in his book regarding how to read a work of literature to every selection we read in the course, so it is very important that you read and annotate this text carefully and thoughtfully. Annotations should include highlighting and/or underlining AS WELL AS marginal notes.

“What is important is not how students annotate or even how much they annotate but that they annotate. The mere act of marking the page as they read makes it more likely that students will read closely and attentively” (The College Board Pre-AP).

2. *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin

Part 1: Read and annotate the text.

Part 2: Apply Foster’s observations from *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*.

On the chart on page 2, make at least 15 connections between Foster’s text and *The Awakening*. Refer to the example as a guide for what “thorough and specific” sentences look like. This is a college-level course, so I expect college-level responses.

Rubric (Formative)

Criteria	Points Possible	Points Earned	Comments
Example from Chopin clearly illustrates Foster’s observation.	30		
Explanation is at least three thorough and specific sentences that clearly explain how Chopin’s work illustrates Foster’s observations.	45		
Total	75		

Applying the Lessons Chart

Foster's observation (Quote with in-text citation)	Connection to <i>The Awakening</i> (Quote with in-text citation)	Explanation (At least three thorough and specific sentences.)
<p>Example: "See this in symbolic terms. A young man sails away from his known world, dies out of one existence, and comes back a new person, hence is reborn. Symbolically, that's the same pattern we see in baptism: death and rebirth through the medium of water" (Foster 155).</p>	<p>Example: "A thousand emotions have swept through me tonight. I don't comprehend half of them...I wonder if any night on earth will ever again be like this one" (Chopin 51).</p>	<p>Example: Edna makes this comment to Robert as they are walking home on the night she has learned to swim. When she emerges from the water, she feels she has died to her previous existence of boredom, listlessness, and simply being carried along through life. After her rebirth, she feels a surging of emotions so powerful that she feels confused by this flood of emotion. This rebirth will give her a sense of empowerment that will soon lead her into a more self-actualized existence rather than simply following the role that a woman is expected to follow.</p>
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