

Ryan High Summer Reading 2019
English III: Advanced Placement Language and Composition
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Welcome to the class you've been getting ready for. Your "pre" AP classes have undoubtedly prepared you well for AP English III, a hard-work class with plenty of personal challenges and rewards. The Advanced Placement English Language and Composition course, nationwide, is intended to provide a college-level study of language, rhetoric, and expository writing for high school students who are interested in studying and writing various kinds of analytic or persuasive essays on non-literary topics. Here at Ryan we will focus, additionally, on American literature as we prepare you also for the AP Literature class and exam your senior year. So, although the actual AP Language exam focuses on non-fiction, we'll get started in the summer with doing some stimulating reading from both genres.

Summer Assignment AP English III

Part One: Required Reading Non-fiction

- *How to Read Literature Like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines*, Thomas C. Foster (You may read either the original, 2003 edition or the revised, 2014 one – make sure you are reading the one with “**literature**” and **NOT** “**novel**” in the title; Foster wrote both.)
- Articles previewing *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/banned-adventures-huckleberry-finn/>

<https://www.smh.com.au/entertainment/books/a-case-for-censoring-huck-finn-20110120-19xgv.html>

<https://www.npr.org/2011/01/11/132829423/the-root-students-cheated-by-censored-huck-finn>

Part Two: Required Reading: Fiction - *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, Mark Twain--READ THIS NOVEL AFTER COMPLETING PART ONE.

The book's narrator is Huckleberry Finn, a youngster whose artless **vernacular** speech is admirably adapted to detailed and poetic descriptions of scenes, vivid representations of characters, and narrative renditions that are both broadly comic and subtly **ironic**. It is a classic of American **realism** for Twain's depiction of the pre-Civil War South, especially through his use of **dialect**. This realism was the source of controversy that developed concerning the book in the late 20th century. Despite Huck's friendship with Jim, the book was felt to be racist by some who considered the language offensive.

Get your own copy (used is fine) and make notes in the margins or use post-it notes as you read. Note any questions you have as well as examples of local color. The more notes you have the better. *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* is another example of the **Bildungsroman** motif (innocence to experience) you've encountered in several Pre-AP English I and II novels.

Part Three: Assignment

- Please read the articles before you read *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and be prepared to discuss author's purpose of each.
- **Expect a reading exam over *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* on the second day of class.**
- Double-entry Journal over *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*

As you read, take notes in a double-entry journal on Foster's assertions (**strongly stated opinions or claims**). Use standard notebook paper or a spiral composition notebook for your notes; you may hand write it (**in ink**) since you are responding as you read. Draw a line down the middle of the page. In the left column, quote the assertion exactly, noting the page number in correct parenthetical MLA documentation form. The right column will be your response from *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, and an example is given below. There's no requirement on the number of entries you must include. However, the more closely you read each book, the better for everyone.

Example of a Double-Entry Journal for *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Foster and *The Chosen* by Potok

Passage

"Whenever people eat or drink together, it's communion" (8).

In Ch. 7 of *The Chosen*, Reuven partakes in a ritual Shabbat meal led by Reb Saunders. Foster tells us that partaking in a meal is personal, and we only do so with people we are comfortable with. In this chapter of *The Chosen*, Danny and Reuven are not yet close friends, but this foreshadows that they will be. Reuven also shows off his intelligence during the Talmudic discussion that follows this meal, causing Reb Saunders to approve of Danny and Reuven's friendship.