

English IV AP
Summer Reading Assignment

1. *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster
 2. *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver
 3. *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck
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We will refer to *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* throughout the year, somewhat like a textbook; for the summer, read and annotate the following chapters:

Chapter 1	“Every Trip Is a Quest (Except When It’s Not)”
Chapter 7	“Or the Bible”
Chapter 19	“Geography Matters”

The Poisonwood Bible is a narrative told from the perspective of a mother and her four daughters. The setting is the Belgian Congo in 1959 where the Price family has moved so that Nathan Price, the husband and dad, can devote his life to missionary work and converting the Congolese people to Christianity.

Your assignment is as follows:

1. Choose one of the narrators and apply what you learned in chapter 1 of *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* to that character. Every member of the Price family is on a quest; your task is to apply the quest format to the character of your choice. This can be done informally, but must be written. Be prepared to discuss and defend your ideas.
2. As you read *The Poisonwood Bible*, apply what you learned from chapters 7 and 19 of *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*. Again, this can be done informally, but you must bring in something written, whether it’s notes or a formal essay, and be prepared to discuss with the class.
3. Annotate three chapters of your choice in *The Poisonwood Bible* with chapters 1, 7, and 19 of *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* in mind.
4. We will use *Of Mice and Men* as a mentor-type text. I may refer to it when I introduce a new skill, concept, or literary element, and you may refer to it when writing about literature. If you have not read it, read it this summer. If you have read it, you may want to reread it to refresh yourself on the sequence of events and characters.

Any questions? Email: Kfranklin@conroeisd.net Also, the assignment will be posted on my blog under the “assignments” tab.

Happy analyzing,

Ms. Franklin