**Summer Assignment for IB 11 Literature** - S. Matson

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

(ISBN# 978-0-06-230167-3—This is important if you are ordering your own book because this is a revised edition that contains chapters not found in the earlier edition. If you want to check out a copy, I have some in my classroom. I will also leave a couple of copies in the main office for students to check out over the summer.)

**-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**

Over the summer you are responsible for reading the chapters listed below from *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* and creating a one to three-minute presentation based on your reading. The title sounds dry, but it truly is an enlightening, humorous, thought-provoking book – one that will make you look at literature (and film) through a different lens than ever before but one that you will use regularly in any course in which you analyze literature. You will also have to answer some questions over your reading on the first full day of school in the fall of 2023.

**Assignment:**

**Chapter 1: Every Trip Is a Quest (Except When It’s Not)** (pp. 1-6)

**Chapter 2: Nice to Eat with You: Acts of Communion** (pp. 7-14)

**Chapter 5: When in Doubt, It’s from Shakespeare** (pp. 32-41)

**Chapter 6: Or the Bible** (pp. 42-51)

**Chapter 7: Hanseldee and Greteldum** (pp. 52-58)

**Chapter 9: It’s More Than Just Rain or Snow** (pp. 69-75)

**Chapter 13: It’s All Political** (pp. 115-123)

**Chapter 14: Yes, She’s a Christ Figure, Too** (pp. 124-132)

**Chapter 18: If She Comes Up, It’s a Baptism** (pp. 160-170)

**Interlude – One Story** (pp. 193-200)

**Chapter 21: Marked for Greatness** (pp. 201-208)

**Presentation:**

Once you’ve completed the reading above, choose a book that you have read in high school, either for a class or for pleasure, (fiction, non-fiction, poetry, drama—it doesn’t matter. BUT do NOT choose *Harry Potter* or *Twilight* because those have been overused) that you think you can apply one of the above chapters to for analysis. Then analyze the book according to the Foster chapter that you have chosen. You will create a presentation of 1-3 minutes explaining that analysis.

In IB, I hope to develop further your critical thinking skills as well as your ability to think outside the box...to be creative. For many of the projects that we do, I will give you very few guidelines, and this will be your first taste of this:

Guideline #1: Time. Your presentation must be at least one minute in length, but you

**will be penalized** for going over three minutes. (I will stop grading at the 3-minute

mark because that is what IB does in grading your oral assessment components.)

Guideline #2: Object. You **must** use one object as a prop in your presentation. I use the

word *object* loosely because if you draw a scar on your face, that would count as

your object. I also use the word *one* loosely because you CAN use more than one

object as long as it looks like ONE OBJECT at the start of your presentation. For example, let’s say that you choose *Charlotte’s Web* as your book. (Just go along

here...not the kiddie book but a high school version with less friendly spiders)

In your presentation, you could use a spider egg sac as your object. It would

look like one object, but over the course of your no-more-than-three-minute

presentation, you could puncture the egg sac and watch it become thousands

of.....objects. 🕷🕷🕷🕷😱😱😱😱

There is nothing for you to hand in for your presentation. All you need is yourself and your object! I can’t wait to see what you come up with!

If you have any questions, feel free to email me ([sam.matson@pcsstn.com](mailto:sam.matson@pcsstn.com)). Aside from a few days this summer when I will be traveling, I should be able to respond within 12-24 hours. Don’t hesitate to contact me. This will be my first year teaching IB, and I am very excited for the opportunity to work with you all! I have created a Google Classroom page for you to join as well. The name of the class is “IB English Class of 2025,” and the pass code to join is jboe3r5.

Have a wonderful summer, and I am so looking forward to starting our IB adventure next year!

Thank you!

Sam Matson

Below is a copy of the form I will use to evaluate your presentation in the fall:

**SUMMER PROJECT EVALUATION**

| **Criterion** | **Points Possible** | **Points Earned** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Project completed and presented on time: | 60 |  |
| Stayed within time constraints: | 10 |  |
| Appropriate body language (standing), eye contact, and vocal quality: | 10 |  |
| Incorporated prop into the majority of the presentation and made  its relevance apparent: | 10 |  |
| Free from distracting grammatical or usage errors: | 10 |  |