

RCHS AP English Literature Summer Reading Assignment 2018

Welcome to AP English Literature at RCHS! We look forward to working with you this year as we prepare for the administration of the AP Literature exam next May. Summer reading assignments will be DUE on Aug. 11. This will allow you to ask questions if needed.

See you in July!

Mrs. Baxter

abaxter@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Ms. Bryant-Davis

lbryant@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Required Reading: In light of the lack of bookstores in Rockdale County, we have chosen books that can be viewed online for free. We hope this helps you fulfill the summer reading requirements.

1. Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*—There are two versions of *Frankenstein*, the 1818 version and the 1831 version. The differences are small, but we prefer the 1831 version, which is more sympathetic toward the creature. There is one link here for an online text, but you may Google the title and find others.

<http://www.gutenberg.org/files/84/84-h/84-h.htm>

Assignment: Write a half-page response to EACH of the questions below. Be prepared to discuss the book in class.

- a. How does Walton (in the preface/letters section) provide a foil for Victor Frankenstein? What do they have in common? Why is this important?
- b. Victor is considered a tragic hero who “destroys all around him.” How is this TRUE? Do you blame Victor for all of the deaths in the novel? Why or why not?
- c. The creature compares himself to Adam (from the Bible). How are they similar? What does this reveal about the creature?
- d. The creature is often alienated by the people he meets in the book. When? Why? What THEME does this reveal?
- e. Even though the creature is technically a monster (and kills people), Shelley tries to create sympathy for him. How does she create sympathy? Do you feel sympathetic towards him? Why or why not?

2. Thomas Foster's *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*—This book sounds dry, but it is a very tongue-in-cheek, sarcastic explanation of how to analyze literature more deeply. We will refer back to this book throughout the school year.

LINK:

<https://mseffie.com/assignments/professor/How%20to%20Read%20Literature%20like%20a%20Professor%20nd.pdf>

If this doesn't work: Email Ms. Bryant-Davis (lbryant@rockdale.k12.ga.us).

For HTRLLAP, take notes on each chapter. We will have reading quizzes over the book when we return.