

AP English Literature and Composition

You are to read the following novel during the summer:

The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver

Rather than having you complete a detailed literature survey (DLS) over the novel, I want you to read it for enjoyment. Kingsolver is a master at creating a distinct voice for each character. You will know exactly who is narrating each chapter without looking at the titles.

*** Make a note of quotations that you feel truly define each central character as we will discuss these in class.

You will be tested over *Poisonwood* the first day we return to school. Be prepared! Much of our work next year will be based on thematic units where novels, poetry, and plays relate to common themes. Intertextuality (literature's connectedness) is a primary focus of our curriculum. You will also study the history and highlights of British literature. This summer reading, however, is the first indicator of your potential in this class.

You should be able to find copies of *The Poisonwood Bible* (a few) in any public library, and many former AP students will have them. However, many of you may want to purchase this one so that you can make personal notations in it. *Poisonwood* will be your "textbook" for the first week of class.

Please purchase the following book for this course:

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

ISBN 0-06-000942-X

I will assign chapters from this book throughout the year. You do **not** need to read it this summer.