

10th grade Summer Assignment: World Literature II

Using the guide below, compose six questions total, three on *The Housekeeper and the Professor* and three on *Biblical Literacy: Essential Bible Stories Everyone Needs to Know*. Your questions should reflect attention to theme, characterization, and/or some other important aspect or element of each book.

WORLD CONNECTION:

Write a question connecting the text to the real world.

You must draw connections between this work and other historical topics/events, past or present. Do these pieces adequately address timeless and universal issues?

OPEN-ENDED QUESTION:

Write an insightful question about the texts that will require proof and group discussion to discover or explore the answer to the question.

UNIVERSAL THEME/CORE QUESTION:

Write a question dealing with a theme(s) of the texts that will encourage group discussion about the universality or broader relevance of the text.

Note: English teachers will not be using *Biblical Literacy: Essential Bible Stories Everyone Needs to Know* to promote a particular religion or to advocate for Christianity. In the English classroom, the bible is taught through a different lens, as a piece of literature. Many of the works from the English curriculum contain biblical allusions. For example, our ninth grade students will be reading Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, tenth graders will read Dante's *Inferno*, juniors will read *Huck Finn*, and seniors will read the poems of John Donne, all of which make frequent use of allusions to the Judeo-Christian bible. The book is not studied as part of our English curriculum, per se, but is rather used as an adjunct to our curriculum as a reference. If students have no basic knowledge of these stories, they will not be able to fully explore or analyze the deeper meanings. Reading and analyzing bible stories is analogous to students' study of Greco-Roman mythology for the purpose of providing background for mythological allusions, also used in many examples of literature.