



**Discussion Questions: *The Shakespeare Requirement***  
"Words, Words, Words" Book Club—September 2020

1. What are your first impressions of the novel?
2. Should Shakespeare be *required* for the study of English and literature? What other authors or subjects (if any) should also be?
3. Critics of the Literary Humanities frequently enter into this debate: *nothing relevant is ever taught vs. what happened to the Classics?* How does this book address this critique? What side do you think it comes down on?
4. Who do you think defaced Cassovan's Shakespeare poster and why?
5. What is (or is not) commonly taught in higher education that you think should be *required*?
6. Is a study of the Humanities as important as STEM subjects? Should students be encouraged to focus on more "practical" areas like Economics?
7. If you attended or worked at a college, what was the English department like at your school? Are there elements of this book that feel familiar to you, either as a teacher or student?
8. At one point, the idea of university-wide Shakespeare course is raised. Is such a course useful?
9. Who was your favorite character and why?
10. Do you think Fitger kept the Shakespeare requirement in the curriculum? Why or why not?