

14/15 MAY 2017



**Robert Frost in 1910**

Image from <http://www.newenglandhistoricalsociety.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/robert-frost.jpg>

Greetings, AmLit Scholars—

Most of the pictures you'll ever see of Robert Frost will reveal him as an elderly poet, which is why I chose an earlier image.

Here's how we'll roll today:

**1. WEDGE**—For roughly ten minutes, write about Frost and his poetry. Either jot down your initial observations upon reading his poetry—bonus points can be earned by using both of these words: “Transcendentalism” and “Modernism”— or respond to one of his most-quoted lines: “home is the place where, when you have to go there, they have to take you in.”

Yes: I was kidding. There are no bonus points for WEDGE. Why? Because there are no points for WEDGE. Ever.

**2. Active Reading Check**—While you're WEDGE-ing, I'll swing by to take a look at your active reading in the Frost packet.

**3. Talking About Frost**—We'll do just that!

Tappa! Tappa! Tappa!—  
Mr Leo

P.S. If you'd like to see or hear more of Frost reciting his own work, here's a nice starting point:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hfOxdZfo0gs>

**Homework:**

Actively read the Faulkner bio and the short story, "Barn Burning."

As you read, pay particular attention to and annotate these key elements of Faulkner's approach to Modernism:

1. **Experimentation with Time:** while generally sticking close to the boy's limited awareness, the narrator occasionally leaps backward or forward to provide a broader temporal perspective. What are the effects of these leaps?
2. **Experimentation with Consciousness:** how does "Barn Burning" reflect Faulkner's interest in revealing the complexity of consciousness?
3. **Experimentation with Space:** note moments when the boy perceives his father in terms related to two-dimensional geometric shapes rather than in realistic detail. What are the effects of these abstractions?
4. **Experimentation with Writing Style:** check those sentences! Faulkner's distinctive writing style of unwieldy, unrelenting sentences is well represented in "Barn Burning." For Faulkner, this experimental style attempts to convey the ambiguities of time and perception. Find examples and comment.