

10th Grade English Summer Reading 2020

Your summer reading consists of two novels, one required and one which you choose from the list below. Please purchase paper copies of the books. Do not use e-books. You will use both books during the first few weeks of school for assignments, activities, and discussions.

In order to prepare for the work we will do with these texts, you should annotate as you read. In simple terms, you should process each text by writing strategically in your book, which will also help you locate specific elements of the text during future work. See the instructions at the end of the handout if you need hints about the annotation process.

In addition to annotating both books, you will complete the following assignment for the required book (*Lord of the Flies*):

- * Select three passages (one from the first third of the book, one from the second third of the book, and one from the final third) that seem especially meaningful to you.
 - * Write out each passage and include the page number.
 - * Write a thoughtful, well-developed paragraph reflecting on each passage, explaining why it is meaningful.
 - * Bring a typed copy of this assignment (three passages/three paragraphs) to class on the first day of school.
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REQUIRED READING:

Lord of the Flies William Golding

(Try to use the paperback published by Penguin, ISBN 0399501487)

A plane crashes, innocent schoolboys aged 12 and under find themselves without adults on an island, and the fun begins as they try to establish a civilization based on reasonable rules. They have food for the picking, sand and surf for play, a mountain to climb, and no homework. What could possibly go wrong? They had not counted on fear and the inner workings of the human heart. The debut novel by a Nobel-prize winning author, it has become a favorite of people everywhere for what it reveals about the nature of man. We will be studying this novel the first few weeks of British Literature.

Choose ONE:

***Great Expectations* Charles Dickens**

Great Expectations is a *bildungsroman*, or a coming-of-age novel, and the story genre is Victorian Literature. It depicts the growth and personal development of an orphan named Pip. In the opening pages, the seven-year-old Pip meets a terrifying stranger in the graveyard where Pip's parents are buried. The stranger, an escaped convict, is eventually re-captured, but becomes intertwined in Pip's future. Filled with strong characters—some mysterious, others hilarious—Dickens' classic novel takes Pip through adulthood, and two endings which Dickens produced for his fans.

1984 George Orwell

The year 1984 has come and gone, but George Orwell's prophetic, nightmarish vision in 1949 of the world we were becoming is timelier than ever. *1984* is still the great modern classic of "negative utopia"—a startlingly original and haunting novel that creates an imaginary world that is completely convincing, from the first sentence to the last four words. No one can deny the novel's hold on the imaginations of whole generations, or the power of its admonitions—a power that seems to grow, not lessen, with the passage of time. (From goodreads.com)

***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* Mark Haddon**

Christopher John Francis Boone knows all the countries of the world and their capitals and every prime number up to 7,057. He relates well to animals but has no understanding of human emotions. He cannot stand to be touched. And he detests the color yellow. Although gifted with a superbly logical brain, for fifteen-year-old Christopher, everyday interactions and admonishments have little meaning. He lives on patterns, rules, and a diagram kept in his pocket. Then one day, a neighbor's dog, Wellington, is killed and his carefully constructive universe is threatened. Christopher sets out to solve the murder in the style of his favorite (logical) detective, Sherlock Holmes. What follows makes for a novel that is funny, poignant and fascinating in its portrayal of a person whose curse and blessing are a mind that perceives the world entirely literally. (From goodreads.com)

***Little Bee* Chris Cleave**

Little Bee is the second novel by writer Chris Cleave. In this novel, a young Nigerian woman is released from an immigration detention center where she has been held for two years after sneaking aboard a British tea ship. This woman, called Little Bee, makes her way to the home of Andrew and Sarah O'Rourke, the only people she knows in England...*Little Bee* is a tragic story

of simple humanity that leaves the reader struck by the inevitability of life even as they learn what it means to be human. (From bookrags.com)

***Catcher in the Rye* J.D. Salinger**

The hero-narrator of *The Catcher in the Rye* is an ancient child of sixteen, a native New Yorker named Holden Caulfield. Through circumstances that tend to preclude adult, secondhand description, he leaves his prep school in Pennsylvania and goes underground in New York City for three days. The boy himself is at once too simple and too complex for us to make any final comment about him or his story. Perhaps the safest thing we can say about Holden is that he was born in the world not just strongly attracted to beauty but, almost, hopelessly impaled on it. There are many voices in this novel: children's voices, adult voices, underground voices—but Holden's voice is the most eloquent of all. Transcending his own vernacular, yet remaining marvelously faithful to it, he issues a perfectly articulated cry of mixed pain and pleasure. However, like most lovers and clowns and poets of the higher orders, he keeps most of the pain to, and for, himself. (From goodreads.com)

HINTS FOR ANNOTATING A TEXT:

Annotating is a way of processing as you read. It helps you actively engage with the text, and it will allow you to find important passages quickly in the future.

Annotating a text involves two steps:

1. Marking (underlining, circling, bracketing, starring, etc.)
2. Writing marginal notes—commenting on what you have marked and why. Some students prefer to keep notes (by page number) in a separate notebook, which is fine.

Potential Topics for Annotation [These are just examples—you do not have to include all of these, but you should strive for some variety, based on what you notice as you read.]

1. **Literary Elements:** Plot Structure, Characters, Conflict, Setting, Point of View, Symbols, Foreshadowing, Themes, Irony
2. **Signposts:** Motifs (recurring elements), Epiphanies (“AHA” moments for characters), Incongruity (inconsistencies/contradictions), Tough Questions (as characters struggle with issues), Memory Moments (the author reveals important memories), Words of the Wiser (mentor characters offer advice)
3. **Writer’s Craft:** Diction, Sentence Structure, Details, Imagery
4. **Your Response as a Reader:** What am I enjoying about the text? What is confusing and why? What information do I still need in order to fully understand the text? What does a specific word mean? What do I think will happen next? What ideas are resonating with me? What connections am I making with experiences, events, stories outside the text?

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