

## English III: American Literature Summer Reading 2019-2020

**Teacher:** Mrs. Gibbons

For summer reading, you will select one the books from the following list and read it before returning to school in the Fall. In addition to reading the novel, you will be asked to complete a review of the novel, attached as the last page as the last page of this document. Please choose a novel that you have not read before.

- *The Bean Trees* by Barbara Kingsolver
- *The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger
- *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls
- *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson
- *My Antonia* by Willa Cather
- *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller

You will be assessed during the first week of school on the novel you have read over the summer. Use the guidelines below to annotate the book you have read. This will help you to organize your thoughts, connect with the text and ultimately to remember it after a long summer. Your annotations will not be collected; however, you will turn in a Book Review sheet for your novel on the first day of class.

### ***Ideas for annotating Literature***

“Every Text is a lazy machine asking the reader to do some of its work.” – Novelist Umberto Eco

- Use a pen so you can make circles brackets and notes. If you like highlighters use one for key passages, but don't get carried away and don't only highlight.
- Look for patterns and label them (motifs, diction, syntax, symbols, images, and behavior, whatever).
- Mark passages that seem to jump out at you because they suggest an important idea or theme- of for any other reason (an arresting figure of speech or image an intriguing sentence pattern, a striking example of foreshadowing, a key moment in the plot, a bit of dialogue that reveals character, clues about the setting etc.)
- Mark phrases, sentences, or passages that puzzle, intrigue, please, or displease you. Ask questions, make comments, talk back to the text.
- At the ends of chapters or sections, write a bulleted list of key plot events. This not only forces you think about what happened, see the novel as whole, and identify patterns, but you create a convenient record of the whole plot.
- Circle words you want to learn or words that jump out at you for some reason. If you don't want to stop reading, guess then, look the word up, and jot down the relevant meaning later. You need not write out a full dictionary definition; it is often helpful to put the relevant meaning in your own words.

If you still need help, please visit this supportive essay on how to annotate a text,  
<http://www.tnellen.com/cybereng/adler.html>

## BOOK REVIEW SHEET

Instructions: While reading the novel that you have selected, you will need to fill out the following points on this sheet. Please type your answers on a separate document.

Title:

Author:

Main Characters:

Three scenes most important for developing main character(s):

Important minor characters and their impact on the plot/theme:

Most important scenes for major/minor character interaction(s)

Setting(s) of importance:

Impact of setting(s) on conflict:

Main conflict and minor conflicts:

Motifs and symbols:

Themes (these should each be a sentence):

Narrative point of view:

Style comments and period relevance:

Three quotes worth memorizing from the work:

Word list: words that need to be used when discussing this novel thoughtfully.