

English IV: British Literature
Summer Reading 2020-2021

Teacher: Ms. Cuneo

For summer reading, you will select one of 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 of this document. Please choose a novel that you have not read before.

- *Remains of the Day* by Kazuo Ishiguro
- *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen
- *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* by Mark Haddon
- *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley
- *Brideshead Revisited* by Evelyn Waugh
- *Clear Light of Day* by Anita Desai

During the first full week of school, you will write an in class essay over the universal themes in the novel that you read. This will count as a major grade for the 1st Quarter. 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 collection of journal entries for your novel on the first full 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 to think about what happened, see the novel as a 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>

Journal Entries Assignment

Instructions: As you read your novel, you will periodically stop and respond to the following prompts. These prompts are meant to help you engage with the text and deepen your reading. Your journal entries must be **at least** half a page typed (12 point, Times New Roman font, 1 inch margins, single spaced) or 1 full page handwritten (single spaced). Please respond in a separate document or on separate sheets of paper. You may use non-academic language to respond to the prompts. Please be sure to list which book you read!

Title and author of novel read:

1. After the first couple of chapters, write a journal entry reflecting on the following questions. What do you think of the book so far? Where do you think the author will take the story from here? Do you notice any themes yet?
2. After the first couple of chapters, write a journal entry reflecting on the following questions. What is the point-of-view in your novel? How does the point-of-view influence the story and the way you interpreted and related to it?
3. After another couple of chapters, reflect on the following questions. How does the author help elicit sympathy for the main characters? Why is this important for the stories they are telling? What is one character you think the novel could do without and why?
4. At any point in the novel, reflect on the following questions. What types of symbols and motifs (recurring images) has the author used so far in the novel? Why do you think the author uses them? Are they effective?
5. After finishing the novel, what do you think the author was trying to say through this novel? Who would enjoy reading this the most? Do you still think this novel is relevant for today's world? Would you keep this on a summer reading book list? Why or why not?
6. After finishing the novel, would you make this into a movie, tv show, graphic novel, or some other reinterpretation? Why or why not? If yes, what would it look like. Is there already a production of this novel? If so, have you seen it and is it any good? What are the main differences and similarities?