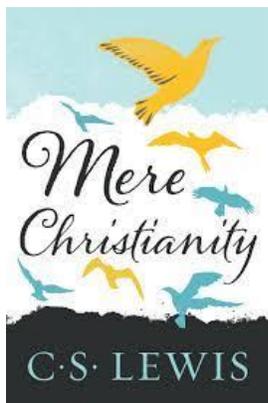




English IV Honors Summer Reading



Reading Assignment:

The selection for summer reading is both for instruction and enjoyment. You may find, as I have, that the reading of *Mere Christianity* impacts your life and puts into perspective the complexities of Christianity. To help you manage the reading and to assist with the opening of school activities, you **MUST** complete the following. Buy an actual printed copy of the book *Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis. Read and then complete the following assignments. Do not buy the study guide that accompanies the book; you are welcome to read that, but our discussion will be over the actual text. I have included a video that gives you five reasons on why you should read *Mere Christianity* [here](#) and a link [here](#) for the audiobook if you would like to listen to it as you read and annotate.

Writing Assignment:

1. **Annotations-** Read and annotate the book thoroughly, using the annotation instructions below.

Annotate – v. To furnish (a literary work) with critical commentary or explanatory notes.

The Process:

Here are a number of procedural expectations to make annotation practical and effective. You ultimately can use the method that works for you, but I have included a few of the techniques that always work for me. In addition, I have included a chart with some abbreviations and symbols. I have also included a link to a YouTube channel that doodles each of the chapters. After you have read and annotated, I encourage you to watch those. It will give you a visual representation of the overview of the chapter. [C.S. Lewis Doodles](#)

1. Implement a consistent system. Use the same abbreviations and symbols every time you annotate (See Below).

b/c = because	Δ = change
+ = and	PLOT = plot item (and/or use one of the following)
w/ = with	EXP = exposition

w/o = without b/t = between e.g. = for example ex = example info = information b4 = before ↑ = increase, improvement, rising ↓ = decrease, decline, falling * = important ** = very important # = of the utmost importance; crucial to understanding > = use caret to point to an exact location	TP = turning point X= conflict RA = rising action Cx = climax FA = falling action RES = resolution Ch = characterization S = setting POV = point of view (mention type: 1 st person, limited omniscient, etc.) Th = theme LT = literary term (identify the term by name: irony, tone, foreshadowing, personification, metaphor, symbol, etc.)
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2. Use one color ink to do initial marking while reading; then go back with another color or colors to mark more thoroughly once you have finished a larger section and have had time to think about it. Why? You may change your mind or get it wrong the first time, or subsequent discoveries may prompt a reevaluation of earlier findings.

3. Do underlining, bracket notations, and circling as you read.

4. At chapter or section ends, stop to reflect on what happened in that chapter. What were the takeaways? What was important?

5. Be neat and be disciplined. Think critically about what you are reading. While the amount of annotation may vary widely from page to page, any notes you add to a text will help you to read more critically – any attempt to annotate your book will help you to understand the reading as you read – and, as I hope these instructions made clear, will help you return to the reading with confidence later.

*Your book will be collected on the first day of school.

II. Chapter One-Sentence (think thesis statement) Reflections

For the second part of your response to the book, you will need to submit chapter one-sentence reflections (an example is listed [here](#) for you- you may choose to use this sheet. Just go to File and Make a Copy to type on the Google Doc) divided into the parts and chapters of the book. Each section will have one sentence theme statement over that section (think what is the overall message of that section). **KEEP IN MIND that *this assignment will be submitted to turnitin* and will be compared against everything on the internet AND any other submissions from other students that I receive. I would advise you to avoid “collaborating” with peers at all costs. Assignments with more than 8% plagiarism will earn a zero. This assignment is due by the first day of class.**

Finally, in the second week of class, you will write an essay on an aspect of the book of my choosing. You will need a thorough, working knowledge of the text, and you will need to be able to specifically reference the book in your essay without having the actual book in front of you.

As the saying goes, “You never get a second chance to make a first impression.” These assignments will be my first impression of you as a student; they tend to be strong indicators of ability level, work ethic and future intention. By choosing to take an Honors level course, you are choosing to work harder, to think further, to analyze more deeply and to connect more strongly to authors, literature, and the written word in

general. Please be sure that your summer work reflects who you really are and what you are truly capable as an English student.