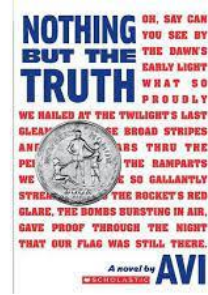


## 2024 On-Level Freshmen Summer Reading Assignment



Please read and annotate the following text:

*Nothing But the Truth: A Documentary Novel*

by Avi

**Your book will need to be either a paperback or hardback – digital copies are not allowed due to the nature of the assignment.**

**Over the Summer:**

**Annotations:**

- Using an actual highlighter of any color, highlight information you feel is important; this can include plot points, observations about a character, quotes, etc. **Do not highlight by underlining with a pen or colored marker.**
  - Highlighted information should then have a note in the margin written in **pen**; this note should explain the relevance of the highlighted material.
    - A note should be around **five or more words** that offer something substantial in meaning. You could also offer your own analysis and/or observations of the text. **DO NOT USE POST-ITS!** Avoid general statements like “This is an example of plot.” You need to explain how/why! There is a sample annotation from a different text in the page below.
  - There should easily be **15** or more highlights once you are finished. The quality of the highlights will be assessed, so don’t treat the text like a coloring book.
- After reading the book, write a **one-page** final reaction to it. This is not a summary! It should instead be your **opinion** about the text. This needs to be handwritten directly in the text as well. You can use the inside of the front and back cover to write this response on. There are also other blank pages located at the beginning if necessary. **It should be 100 words minimum.**

**Summary of Tasks:**

- 15 highlights with accompanying annotations (2 point each)
- 1 reaction journal after you have finished the book (15 points)
  - TOTAL: 45 points

**The First Day Back:**

- Be prepared to take a test and write an essay about the book upon your return.
  - The test will be multiple choice.
  - The essay will cover a major theme of the book.

**NOTE:** If your book is not fully annotated, you will not be allowed to take the test or write your essay. This means you will suffer a ten-percent deduction for each day you are not able to take the test/essay. **This is not an assignment you begin August 7!** You should be working on this throughout the summer.

SAMPLE ANNOTATION FROM A DIFFERENT BOOK.

Still, Mamaw and Papaw believed that hard work mattered more. They knew that life was a struggle, and though the odds were a bit longer for people like them, that fact didn't excuse failure. "Never be like these [redacted] losers who think the deck is stacked against them," my grandma often told me. "You can do anything you want to."

Their community shared this faith, and in the 1950s that faith appeared well founded. Within two generations, the transplanted hillbillies had largely caught up to the native population in terms of income and poverty level. Yet their financial success masked their cultural unease, and if my grandparents caught up economically, I wonder if they ever truly assimilated. They always had one foot in the new life and one foot in the old one. They slowly acquired a small number of friends but remained strongly rooted in their Kentucky homeland. They hated domesticated animals and had little use for "critters" that weren't for eating, yet they eventually relented to the children's demands for dogs and cats.

Their children, though, were different. My mom's generation was the first to grow up in the industrial Midwest, far from the deep twangs and one-room schools of the hills. They attended modern high schools with thousands of other students. To my grandparents, the goal was to get out of Kentucky and give their kids a head start. The kids, in turn, were expected to do something with that head start. It didn't quite work out that way.

Before Lyndon Johnson and the Appalachian Regional Commission brought new roads to southeastern Kentucky, the primary road from Jackson to Ohio was U.S. Route 23. So important was this road in the massive hillbilly migration that Dwight Yoakam penned a song about northerners who casti-

despite their discrimination, they never sought pity (shows character)