

Ouachita Parish High School
English III and English III Honors
Summer Reading Assignment

If you have signed up for *honors English III*, then reading **BOTH of these novels are mandatory**. You will be tested on the novels after the school year begins. That, along with your annotations, will be your first grades for the year.

If you are signed up for *regular English III*, then **this assignment is OPTIONAL**. You should choose **ONE** of these novels to read. You may earn bonus points with a writing assignment that is based on the reading and annotations.

1. [*The Scarlet Letter*, Nathaniel Hawthorne](#)
2. [*Night*, Elie Wiesel](#)

How to Annotate

You have two options:

1. *Sticky Notes* - Use sticky notes if you're using a school-owned copy or don't want to write in the book.
2. *Highlighters & Margins* - If the book is yours, highlight and write directly in the margins.

What to Annotate

As you read, mark passages that reflect the following. Aim to annotate **at least 5-7 times per chapter**, and don't just highlight. Always **add a note** or **sticky** that explains *why* the passage matters.

1. Character development
 - a. Note how the characters change over time.
 - b. Identify moments that reveal key traits, motivations, or conflicts.
2. Themes
 - a. Mark passages that reveal central themes.
3. Symbols and motifs
 - a. Identify recurring objects, images, or ideas. Note what they might represent and how their meaning changes.
4. Powerful quotes
 - a. Highlight or mark quotes that strike you (emotionally or intellectually).
 - b. Include a sticky note or margin annotation explaining *why* it stood out or how it connects to a bigger idea.
5. Literary devices
 - a. Look for figurative language: imagery, similes, metaphors, irony, etc. Write what effect the author creates with this device.
6. Questions and reactions
 - a. Ask questions when something is confusing, disturbing, or thought-provoking.
 - b. Record emotional reactions to scenes or characters.

Notes on annotations

- Do not write things like, "I really liked this part!" Your annotations should reflect a close reading of the book and should be literary, not personal in nature.
- Annotations do not have to be in complete sentences, but they must be legible.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email Mrs. Zimmerman (michelle.zimmerman@opsb.net)