

ANNOTATION GUIDE

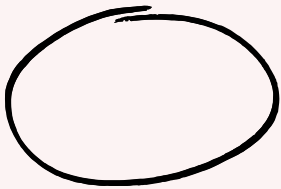
for required summer read

Annotating is a requirement in high school and college classes and is the best way to interact with a text. Annotations are also invaluable when it's time to write an essay about a text. Thorough annotations contribute to a deeper comprehension of the text, resulting in more successful writing assignments and a heightened grasp of course material.

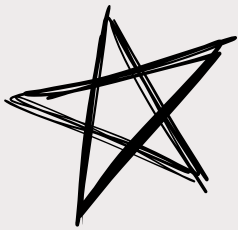
You will write your annotations and notes **directly in the book**.



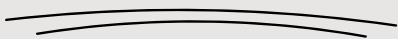
Highlight key words, phrases, and sentences that are important to your understanding of the work.



Circle words you don't know, then look them up and define them in the margins or on a Post-it.



Star provoking paragraphs or pages. Anytime you read and have an emotional response (sadness, anger, joy, heartache, etc.) put a star next to the passage. It is very likely this information will be useful in analysis later.



Underline and label literary devices (such as imagery and figurative language), as well as significant diction (word choice) and syntax (sentence structure, or the arrangement of words in a sentence).



Write questions or comments in the margins- your thoughts or "conversation" with the text.

At the end of each chapter or section, write a 1-2 sentence summary.

The Fountains of Silence

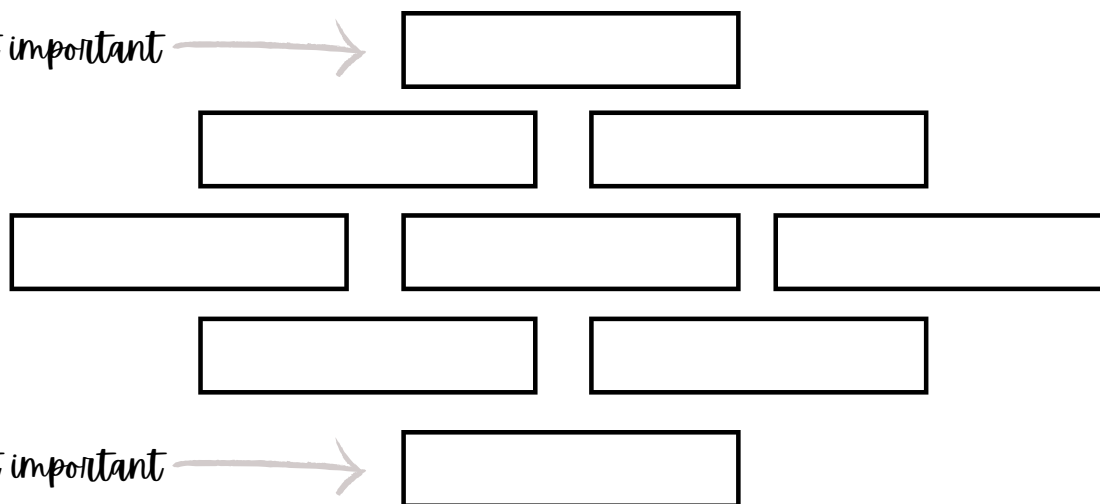
DIAMOND 9 ACTIVITY

Directions: Arrange the ideas into the "Diamond 9" formation below, from most important to least important. Then, complete the one-paragraph written response.

The Fountains of Silence is about...

Loyalty	What it's like to live under an oppressive regime	Love finding a way to overcome obstacles
Standing up for what you believe in, even if it puts you in danger	Spanish history	Fear, silence, and secrets
The effects of poverty	The difficulty of understanding someone else's experiences	Friendship

most important →



← least important

Written Response

After completing your Diamond 9 of important thematic ideas from *The Fountains of Silence*, choose ONE of the following questions to answer in a well-developed paragraph. Begin with a clear topic sentence that addresses your chosen question, then include at least two specific examples from the novel (with page numbers) as evidence. For each example, provide thoughtful commentary that explains how it connects to the theme and why this placement in your Diamond 9 is justified. Consider how your chosen theme relates to the historical context of Franco's Spain and what Sepetys wanted readers to understand. End with a concluding sentence that expresses the significance of this thematic element to the novel as a whole.

1. What theme did you place at the top of the diamond (as the most important idea), and why?
2. What theme did you place at the bottom of the diamond (as the least important idea), and why?

Grading Criteria

Your annotations and Diamond 9 assignment are due on the first day of school and will be a **minor grade**.

Criteria	Exemplary (5)	Accomplished (4)	Developing (3)	Emerging (2)	Needs Improvement (1)
Following Directions	Student thoroughly follows all directions provided for annotations and written response.	Student mostly follows directions provided for annotations and written response.	Student somewhat follows directions provided for annotations and written response.	Student inconsistently follows directions provided for annotations and written response.	Student does not follow directions provided for annotations and written response.
Effort	Student demonstrates exceptional effort in completing annotations and written response.	Student demonstrates good effort in completing annotations and written response.	Student demonstrates some effort in completing annotations and written response.	Student demonstrates minimal effort in completing annotations and written response.	Student demonstrates little to no effort in completing annotations and written response.
Quality of Thinking	Student's annotations and written response reflect high-quality thinking and analysis.	Student's annotations and written response reflect solid thinking and analysis.	Student's annotations and written response reflect basic thinking and analysis.	Student's annotations and written response reflect limited thinking and analysis.	Student's annotations and written response reflect little to no thinking and analysis.
Detail of Annotations	Annotations are detailed and provide thorough analysis of key elements in the text.	Annotations contain sufficient detail and analysis of key elements in the text.	Annotations contain some detail and analysis of key elements in the text.	Annotations lack detail and analysis of key elements in the text.	Annotations are missing or severely lack detail and analysis of key elements in the text.
Original and Insightful Ideas	Student presents original and insightful ideas and commentary in the thesis paragraph, demonstrating a deep understanding of the text and its themes.	Student presents mostly original and insightful ideas and commentary in the thesis paragraph.	Student presents some original and insightful ideas and commentary in the thesis paragraph.	Student presents limited original and insightful ideas and commentary in the thesis paragraph.	Student presents little to no original or insightful ideas and commentary in the thesis paragraph.
Grammar + Mechanics	Student demonstrates mastery of grammar and mechanics with clear and error-free writing.	Student demonstrates mostly accurate grammar and mechanics with minor errors.	Student demonstrates basic grammar and mechanics with noticeable errors.	Student demonstrates limited grasp of grammar and mechanics with frequent errors.	Student demonstrates poor grasp of grammar and mechanics with pervasive errors.