

# Literature and Composition II (10<sup>th</sup> Grade) Summer Work 2026

Mrs. Reece

Your summer work this year is intended to be a thorough preparation for our first unit of the year. You may have already read this novel (many of you have!), but our work in the first unit will require you to have a deeper understanding of the text. This assignment is an extension of what you already know about this novel and, therefore, will require you to reread the book while you complete this assignment.

Everyone will need to purchase this copy of *Animal Farm* by George Orwell. This is important for page numbers to line up.

ISBN: 9780452284241 Publisher: Penguin Publishing Group

You will **read or re-read the book** for a closer analysis. Your assignment is to **ANNOTATE the book** thoroughly for a deeper understanding of the text.

## General Annotation Guidelines

How should I annotate? (*These are just a few suggestions to get you started.*)

1. Use highlighters to mark longer passages
2. Write (I prefer pencil- it's neater) notes in the margins
3. Underline words or phrases that stand out
4. Use sticky notes for longer commentary
5. Use flag sticky notes to organize thoughts

What should I be highlighting, writing, underlining, etc in the book? (*Again, these are just a few suggestions.*)

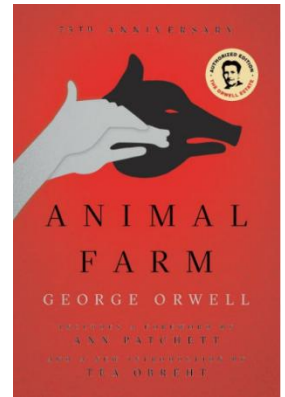
1. Anything that stands out as interesting or unique to you
2. Connections to the theme(s)
3. Character details (direct or indirect characterization)
4. Any questions you have as you read (“Why would this character say that?”)

Everyone’s annotations will be different. What I am looking for is detail and consistency in your annotations. You will not get credit for highlighting without providing commentary; that is just coloring. Include your own commentary/analysis for *why* you marked something.

In addition to your own annotations, everyone will **color code specific annotations** to align with the following five categories. You may choose any colors you want; please provide a key in the front cover of the book.

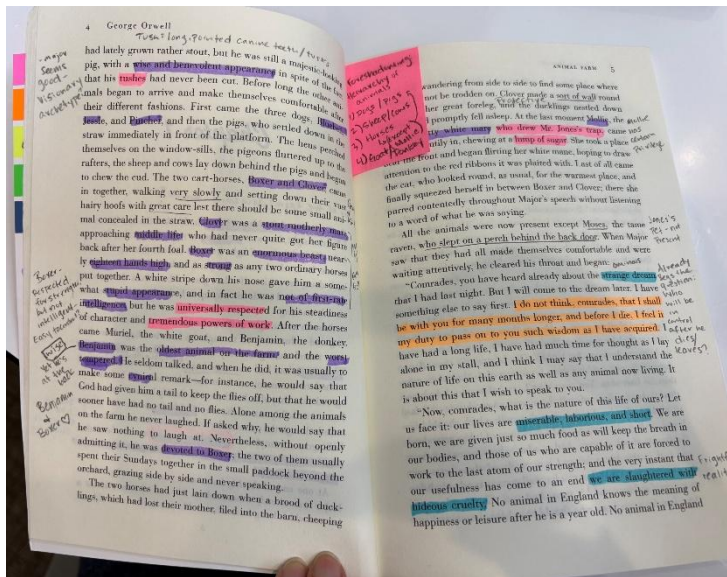
1. Language of control (slogans, commandments, songs, euphemisms, etc)
2. Shifts in power (who gains it, who loses it, how, who benefits, etc)
3. Moments of complicity and rebellion (when and why do characters choose to comply or resist)
4. Truth vs. memory (what changes, who notices, who doesn't)
5. Fear and Enforcement (real or implied violence or threats)

You will **turn in your annotated book** on the first day of school. This will be a minor grade, and we will have a test over the book (major grade) in the first weeks of school.



You will be graded on the following scale.

- A- (100-90) Excellent: Text has been thoroughly annotated with thoughtful questions, observations, connections, and commentary. Margin notes and markings are frequent and consistent throughout the book. Commentary shows thoughtfulness and thorough understanding of the text. Color coding is consistent for all five required categories.
- B- (80-89) Proficient: Text has been reasonably annotated with questions, observations, connections, and commentary. Margin notes and markings are mostly consistent throughout the book. Commentary shows understanding of the text, but at a basic, surface level. Color coding is somewhat consistent, but not equal for all five required categories.
- C- (70-79) Adequate: Text has been somewhat annotated with some commentary, but lacks thoughtful observations, connections, or questions. Markings are mostly somewhat consistent throughout the book, but you may not have commentary with highlighted or underlined text. Color coding was attempted but is not consistent and/or lacks a key to indicate which category each marking is for.
- D- (60-69) Not Satisfactory: Text has not been annotated with questions, observations, connections, or commentary. There are limited, if any, margin notes that provide thoughtful analysis. Text may be highlighted but lacks written notes in the margin. Color coding and/or commentary for five categories was not attempted.
- F- (below 60) Not attempted or barely any effort in assignment.



The image to the left is a sample of annotations that would receive a grade of 90 or higher. These annotations are color coded, have adequate commentary, and include sticky notes with more detailed comments/thoughts.

The sample on the right is an inadequate annotation of the text. It does not include commentary, it attempts to highlight in color coding, but it lacks depth or reasoning for annotations. A book that is annotated like this would receive a grade around 60.

