ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY
CREATIVE COMPOSITION
(all semesters must complete)

Teacher: Mrs. Megan Mills

ASSIGNMENT 1:

Over the summer/winter, you are tasked with **reading and annotating the book below**. You should **specifically look for the author's style choices and writing advice** while reading. See the chart below for some other annotating strategies to practice.

Becoming a Writer, by Dorothea Brande

ANNOTATION/READING STRATEGIES

While annotating you can...

1. Form a **connection** to your personal life, the world around you, or to another text.
2. Ask a **question** about the information you are taking in.
3. **Summarize** or clarify long, confusing, or important passages that you may want to recall later on
4. Make a **prediction** about what could happen next.
5. Make an **inference** about how a character feels about their surroundings, other characters, the conflict, etc.
6. **Define** unfamiliar vocabulary. Try to use context clues!
7. **Evaluate** or form an opinion about something mentioned in the text.
8. **Analyze** or create new meaning from a passage. Look for things like characterization, theme, symbols, author's purpose and other literary devices to give content to your analysis.

Remember: Your annotations should be written out; otherwise, it's unclear why you marked a specific passage.

ASSIGNMENT 2:

You will need a composition notebook *(please see the link for what this should look like, the composition notebook needs to be college ruled and have about 100 pages)* for this assignment and for the course.

In the first 2-3 pages complete the following...

1. Record a total of 5 pieces of textual evidence that you think demonstrate the author's style.
2. Record another 5 pieces of textual evidence that provide writing advice from the author.

** Each piece of evidence should be a direct quote and include an MLA citation (that includes the page number)*

Please bring your composition notebook with you to the first week of class (August/January) and make sure your name is on the **INSIDE FRONT COVER. Your notebook should be **college-ruled** (not wide-ruled). We will use this notebook all semester.*