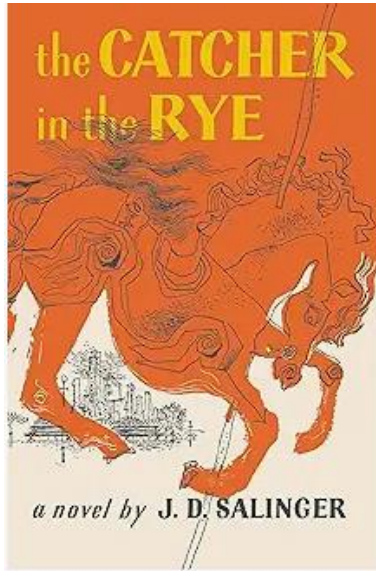


Summer 2026 English III On Level Reading and Annotating Instructions



Part I: *The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger

You will earn a grade for your annotations of both *The Catcher in the Rye* AND your choice book. Read purposefully and critically, **annotating** and thinking deeply as you read:

- Look for the development of certain **themes, metaphors, and symbols**;
- Examine how **characterization** is achieved;
- Consider the role of **point of view** and how the story is told (flashbacks, switch in focal characters);
- Explore how the **setting** is depicted and what this reveals about characters and themes.

When school starts you will be responsible for discussing and writing about what you've read. Therefore it is imperative that you remember what you have read! Please consider keeping a reading journal to help you in remembering pertinent details. By reflecting on each chapter as you read them, you will strengthen your recall of the material as well as your own understanding of your reactions. This reading journal can also become a valuable resource when it comes time to write an essay or review for a test. The reading journal is an optional and encouraged endeavor.

Required Novel:

The Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger

The Catcher in the Rye is a classic bildungsroman, or coming-of-age novel. One of the most iconic and well-known protagonists in American literature, Holden Caulfield, spends several lonely days exploring New York City after being kicked out of his boarding school in Pennsylvania. Obsessed with the phoniness of the adults in his life, Holden wants nothing more than to protect the innocence of childhood. The novel is a weighty examination of what it means to be an adolescent on the cusp of adulthood while dealing with grief.

Part II: Choice Novel: Choose ONE of the following texts to read and annotate

The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett

The Firekeeper's Daughter Angeline Boulley

The Memory Keeper's Daughter by Kim Edwards

The Round House by Louise Erdrich

James by Percival Everett

Snow Falling on Cedars by David Guterson

The Women by Kristin Hannah

The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne

The Sun Also Rises by Ernest Hemingway

Real Americans by Rachel Khong

Behold the Dreamers by Imbolo Mbue

The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride

The Road by Cormac McCarthy

Hello Beautiful by Anne Napolitano

Mad Honey by Jodi Picoult and Jennifer Finney Boylan

The Berry Picker by Amanda Peters

Sing, Unburied Sing by Jesmyn Ward

The Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead

Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow by Gabrielle Zevin

Blood Over Bright Haven by M.L. Wang

All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr

The Bright Years by Sarah Damoff

The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver

How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents by Julia Alvarez

Yellowface by R.F. Kuang

Yesteryear by Caro Claire Burke

Note: When you have a choice novel to read, you are expected to do your own research to determine which novel is ultimately right for you as a reader at this moment.