AP SEMINAR — *Summer Reading & Annotation Guide*

PRINT BOOKS & HANDWRITTEN ANNOTATIONS ONLY

Kindle, e-books, and digital annotations will NOT be accepted. Physical print copy and handwritten notes REQUIRED.

Required: Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451* WITH 100+ INSIGHTFUL, LEGIBLE Annotations

"It was a pleasure to burn." — Ray Bradbury

As you read, choose from the following annotation types. You do not need to mark every category on every page — select what is most meaningful to the text at that moment.

HOW TO MARK IT	WHAT TO LOOK FOR
Post-it or margin note	Themes — identity, censorship, freedom, ignorance. Note how the idea develops.
Post-it or margin note	Archetypes — color, water, fire, light/darkness, nature. What does the image suggest?
Post-it or margin note	Motifs — a recurring image or idea. Where have you seen this before in the text?
Post-it or margin note	Diction — a word choice that stands out. What is its connotation? Why did the author choose it?
CIRCLE it	Interesting Syntax — circle sentence structures with a strong effect on meaning or tone and explain.
Post-it on title page	Title — What does the title mean? What might it suggest about the book's themes or central ideas?
Post-it on title page	Author — Record the author's lifespan and 3–5 interesting facts about their life or other works.
Post-it on publication page	Publication Year — Find the copyright page date. What was happening historically? Why does that context matter?

Student Choice — Select ONE REQUIRED TITLE & COMPLETE 30+ Annotations. FOR EXTRA CREDIT YOU MAY READ & ANNOTATE TWO OR MORE of the titles below.

Select one of the texts below. Annotate using the same chart above — all rows apply, including the title page post-its.

The Secret Life of Bees Sue Monk Kidd	*"Knowing can be a curse on a person's life. I'd traded in a pack of lies for a pack of truth, and I didn't know which one was heavier."*
Theo of Golden Allen Levi	*"The best portion of a good person's life is the little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and love."*
Passing Nella Larsen	*"It's funny about 'passing.' We disapprove of it and at the same time condone it. It excites our contempt and yet we rather admire it."*
The Hobbit J.R.R. Tolkien	*"This is a story of how a Baggins had an adventure, and found himself doing and saying things altogether unexpected."*

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Annotation Requirements

- **Read a physical print copy — Kindle, e-books, and digital formats are not accepted**
- **All annotations must be legibly handwritten — typed or digital notes will not be accepted**
- Number each annotation sequentially in the upper corner of the post-it or margin
- Add your initials next to each number
- Write a brief response — not just a label. Explain why the moment matters. Thoughtful insights needed.
- Spread annotations throughout the entire text, not clustered in one section
- OPTIONAL: To prepare for writing assignments, create a strong verb list (50+ boxed verbs from *Fahrenheit 451*) compiled separately **(in-class work during second week of school)**
- Be prepared to share and discuss selected annotations on the first day of class.