

AP English
Summer Reading Assignment

Read the following novel: *Jane Eyre* by

While reading, practice good annotation methods/strategies that we will be using in my course all year. Some students think that just highlighting and underlining is enough, but it isn't. Good annotating means not just knowing something needs to be highlighted, but asking why it should be. What makes it important? Is it relevant to theme, context, setting, characterization, etc.? Ask yourselves these questions as you read and annotate! Below, there are some strategies for annotating your text.

- Highlight/Underline important quotes and/or moments – Remember to ask yourself why these are important. Write in the margins why you think so.
- Mark moments (or words) where you are confused with question marks – write questions you may have in the margins that way you remember to ask those questions later as we discuss books.
- Make comments in the margins wherever you feel necessary. Do you agree or disagree with actions made by characters? Do you personally relate to a moment? Etc.
- Some people find it useful to summarize at the bottoms of pages.
- Circle page numbers that you feel were important.

Basically, annotating is taking notes inside your book. It's interacting with the work to help you better understand it and to be prepared for discussions in class. **I will be looking at your books to ensure that you carefully annotated. Remember, simply underlining and highlighting is not enough!!**

After, I want you to write a rough draft to a full TWO-page page paper with a definitive, clear thesis statement in which you make an argument concerning a thematic concept or statement within the book. This is YOUR argument, but you should use evidence and support from the book. If you want to chat with me about essay ideas, including prompts, thesis statements, etc., feel free to email me over the summer.

The paper should be in standard MLA format and a MINIMUM of two full pages. Although this is an argument you are making, remember to avoid "I" statements. Treat this like a formal essay and take it seriously.