

## Slidell High School- Summer Reading English II (G) 2022-2023

Dear Parents and Students,

Reading comprehension skills are essential to a student's academic growth. These skills can benefit a person for a lifetime. In an effort to nurture both the habits of good reading and the love of reading, as well as develop strong reading skills, the following reading assignment has been assigned to all English II Gifted level students. Every English II Gifted student must read and annotate the novella *Animal Farm* over the summer.

Reading and annotations must be completed no later than **August 12th, 2021**, so get started now! It is strongly suggested that a personal copy of this novel be obtained and annotated. However, one may be checked out from the library and annotations can be done on post-it notes or as split-page notes.

### **Book Synopsis:**

A farm is taken over by its overworked, mistreated animals. With flaming idealism and stirring slogans, they set out to create a paradise of progress, justice, and equality. Thus the stage is set for one of the most telling satiric fables ever penned— a razor-edged fairy tale for grown-ups that records the evolution from revolution against tyranny to a totalitarianism just as terrible. When *Animal Farm* was first published, Stalinist Russia was seen as its target. Today it is devastatingly clear that wherever and whenever freedom is attacked, under whatever banner, the cutting clarity and savage comedy of George Orwell's masterpiece have a meaning and message still ferociously fresh.

### **Assignment:**

Annotate this novel using the attached annotation guidelines. Complete reading and annotations no later than Friday, August 12th. Complete the Summer Reading Project for Friday, August 19th. Project instructions will be delivered on Monday, August 8th.

**Task:** The most common complaint about annotating is that it slows down your reading. Yes, it does. That's the point. If annotating as you read annoys you, read a chapter, then go back and annotate. Reading a text a second time is preferable anyway.

Bring your annotations to class the first day to be sure you're on the right track. Approach the work with an open mind. Let the text inspire you and stretch your imagination.

## **Annotation Guidelines:**

Annotation is a key component of close reading. Since we will annotate texts all year, you need to develop a system that works for you (within the following guidelines). Effective annotating is both economical and consistent. The techniques are almost limitless. Use any combination of the following:

- Make brief comments in the margins. Use any white space available - inside cover, random blank pages
- Make brief comments between or within lines of the text. Do not be afraid to mark within the text itself. In fact, you must.
- Circle or put boxes, triangles, or clouds around words or phrases.
- Use abbreviations or symbols - brackets, stars, exclamation points, question marks, numbers, etc.
- Connect words, phrases, ideas, circles, boxes, etc. with lines or arrows.
- \*Underline – CAUTION: Use this method sparingly. Underline only a few words. Always combine with another method such as comment. Never underline an entire passage. Doing so takes too much time and loses effectiveness. If you wish to mark an entire paragraph or passage, draw a line down the margin or use brackets.
- \*Highlight – See underline. You cannot write with a highlighter anyway.
- Create your own code.
- Use post-it notes only if you have exhausted all available space (unlikely).

## **What should you annotate?**

Again, the possibilities are limitless. Keep in mind the reasons we annotate. Your annotations must include comments. I want to see evidence of thinking.

*Have a conversation with the text. Talk to it.*

*Ask questions* (essential to active reading).

*Comment on the actions or development of a character.* Does the character change? Why? How? The result?

*Comment on something that intrigues, impresses, amuses, shocks, puzzles, disturbs, repulses, aggravates, etc.*

*Comment on lines / quotations* you think are especially significant, powerful, or meaningful. *Express agreement or disagreement.*

*Summarize key events. Make predictions.*

*Connect ideas* to each other or to other texts.

*Note if you experience an epiphany.*

*Note anything you would like to discuss or do not understand.*

*Note how the author uses language:* Note the significance if you can. Note effects of word choice (diction) or sentence structure or type (syntax) point of view / effect, reliability of narrator, repetition of words, phrases, actions, events – patterns - motifs or cluster ideas narrative pace / time / order of sequence of events, tone / mood, irony\*\*\*, imagery, contrasts / contradictions / juxtapositions / shifts/themes, allusions, setting / historical period, any other figure of speech or literary device, symbols, etc.



| <b>How-to-Annotate<br/>Bookmark</b>   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Before Reading:</b> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <i>Examine the front and back covers</i></li><li>➤ <i>Read the title &amp; any subtitles</i></li><li>➤ <i>Examine illustrations</i></li><li>➤ <i>Examine the print (bold, italic)</i></li><li>➤ <i>Examine the way the text is set up (i.e. Book, Short Story, Dialogue, Diary, Article, Etc.)</i></li></ul> <hr/>   | <b>Annotation Instructions and Rubric</b> <p>Print this page and cut out the attached bookmark. Use it to help you read for important information.</p> <p>Obviously, annotation is as personal as reading, and there are MANY ways to annotate a book. This system is a suggestion. For example, some people prefer to use colors to differentiate elements, and some prefer to use "Post Its."</p>   |
| <b>During Reading:</b> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <i>Mark in the text: Characters (who), Setting (when/where), Vocabulary (squiggly line)</i></li><li>➤ <i>Important ideas (straight line)</i></li><li>➤ <i>Write in the margins:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>Summarize / Make Predictions</i></li><li><i>Formulate opinions / Make Connections / Ask Questions / Analyze Author's Craft / Reflect – React – Comment on Patterns</i></li></ul></li></ul> <hr/> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>93 – 100 Points</b></p> <p>There should be markings and written commentary throughout the book including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recognition of plot points</li><li>• Commentary on character development</li><li>• Commentary on theme development</li><li>• Notation of motifs</li><li>• Notation of literary devices</li></ul> <p>There will be something significant in every chapter.</p> |
| <b>After Reading:</b> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <i>Re-read annotations</i></li><li>➤ <i>Re-read introduction and conclusion</i></li><li>➤ <i>Examine Patterns and Repetitions / Examine the title</i></li><li>➤ <i>Draw Conclusions – Make Connections</i></li></ul> <hr/>  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>85 – 92 Points</b></p> <p>There should be markings and commentary throughout most of the book including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recognition of plot points</li><li>• Commentary on character development</li><li>• Commentary on theme development</li><li>• Notation of literary devices</li></ul> <p>There will be something noted in nearly every chapter.</p>                              |
|   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>75 – 84 Points</b></p> <p>There should be markings and commentary throughout the book though some sections may be marked less than others. Highlights and commentary should still show a basic understanding of the plot and characters.</p>  |
|   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>0 – 74 Points</b></p> <p>Annotation reflects that reading was incomplete or there was a lack of understanding. Entire sections may have been skipped or random/insignificant material has been highlighted.</p>   |