

Pre-AP English II - Summer Reading Project

****Note: Please read the entire assignment page and rubric before beginning the assignment.**

Part One:

- A. Purchase *A Separate Peace* by John Knowles (available in bookstores or online)
- ***Due to the nature of the assignment, it is important to use a version that does not have previous markings! Torn up books are not acceptable.***
- B. As you read the novel for comprehension, annotate the text by yourself using the guide below.

Objectives:

- To aid in comprehension and analysis of the novel over the summer and in class.
- To encourage purposeful and meaningful annotations in all texts read in class and beyond.

Expectations within the first week of class:

- You will test over the assigned novel.
- You will turn in your book for an annotation check using the rubric provided.

Annotation Guidelines:

In order to regulate what annotating means for class and for grading purposes, your original, hand-written notes should follow this format:

Inside Front Cover: Write up a character list with character descriptions and relationships with other characters. My recommendation is to leave space for each character as to not run out of room too quickly.

Inside Back Cover: Notes on what you learned from this book plus the number of side margin and top margin notes you wrote throughout the book.

Side Page Margins: Write questions, and/or remarks that refer to meaning of the events that happen as the story progresses. Also include inferences about the characters' actions, thoughts, and feelings.

Bottom Margins: Circle any unfamiliar words in the text and use the space at the bottom of the page to define them.

Top Margins: Plot notes -- a quick few words or phrases which summarize what happens here (useful for quick location of passages in discussion and for writing assignments).

Additional Markings:

- Underlining/Highlighting: Do this during or after reading to help locate passages for discussion, essays, or questions.
- Brackets: Do this during or after reading to focus on key speeches, descriptions, etc. that are too long to underline/highlight easily.

IMPORTANT NOTE!! Merely underlining or highlighting text does not equal fully annotating. Every page **may not** be as comprehensively annotated as the sample (the extra file located on the AMCHS Summer Assignment website); however, the example is meant to help illustrate the variety of annotations you are required. Any symbols used to mark the text should be accompanied by marginal notes.

If you find annotating annoying while you are reading, quickly mark the text as you read and come back to annotate after you've reached a stopping point. Or, go back after reading and mark the text. I've found that even quick annotations while reading helps me remember important thoughts that I can go back and elaborate on later.

Part Two:

- Purchase and read *Elements of Style, 4th Edition* by Strunk and White
 - Annotations are not required

I'm excited to see you all this upcoming fall semester! If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to email. You may also visit my website if you'd like to know more about me or see important updates.

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Website: <https://sites.google.com/a/csisd.org/dposey/home>

A Separate Peace Annotation Rubric:

Annotation grades will be based on thoroughness, clarity, neatness, and apparent effort ("apparent effort" because I will obviously not read all the notes on every page of everyone's book). Also, ALL annotations MUST be original (**not plagiarized from the internet or other people**), handwritten, and legible.

1. Completion _____/20 points

Is book annotated throughout? (i.e. not just the 1st half)

Barely Partially Mostly Completely

2. Front cover _____/20 points

Do you have a complete list of **important** characters with *descriptions* and *relationships*?

This MUST be in your own words. Avoid PLAGIARISM.

Gene, Finny, Brinker, Leper, Quackenbush

3. Back cover _____/10 points

Answer the following questions:

- Which character did you connect to most? If none, why not?
- How did you feel about what happens to the characters and the decisions they make?
- What kinds of things are you wondering about at the end of the book?
- Do you wish the story could have ended differently and why? If not, why were you satisfied with the ending?

4. Side page margin notes _____/20 points

Do you have at least 100 side page margin notes?

5. Top page margin notes _____/20 points

Do you have at least 20 top page margin notes?

6. Bottom page margin notes _____/10 points

Do you have at least 10 bottom page margin notes?

Total _____/100 points