

**St. Joseph Central Catholic High School
Summer 2017 Reading List**

11th Grade

Required Reading: *The Life of Pi* by Yann Martel

- All incoming juniors are required to read this book. We will discuss the text, and I will assess your understanding of it at the beginning of the school year.

Selected Reading: All incoming juniors are required to read **at least one** book from the selected reading list below. ***You must choose a book you have not ever read before.*** Attached is a written assignment you must complete and hand in on the **first** day of school for the book you choose. No late work will be accepted.

Classics

Winesburg, Ohio
by **Sherwood Anderson**

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings
by **Maya Angelou**

Pride & Prejudice
by **Jane Austen**

Jane Eyre
by **Charlotte Bronte**

Wuthering Heights
by **Emily Bronte**

The Red Badge of Courage
by **Stephen Crane**

Lord of the Flies
by **William Golding**

The Scarlet Letter
by **Arthur Miller**

Gone with the Wind
by **Margaret Mitchell**

The Sun Also Rises
by **Ernest Hemingway**

Les Miserables
by **Victor Hugo**

Their Eyes Were Watching God
by **Zora Neale Hurston**

The Grapes of Wrath
by **John Steinbeck**

The Bluest Eye
By **Toni Morrison**

The Bell Jar
By **Sylvia Plath**

Contemporary

The Kite Runner
by **Khaled Housseini**

I am Malala
by **Malala Yousafzai**

The Perks of Being a Wallflower
by **Stephen Chbosky**

The Handmaid's Tale
by **Margaret Atwood**

A Prayer for Owen Meany
by **John Irving**

The Poisonwood Bible
by **Barbara Kingsolver**

Uglies
by **Scott Westerfield**

The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao
by **Junot Diaz**

Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close
by **Jonathan Safran Foer**

The Secret Life of Bees
by **Sue Monk Kidd**

Water for Elephants
by Sara Gruen

Looking for Alaska
by **John Green**

The Book Thief
by **Markus Zusak**

13 Reasons Why
by **Jay Asher**

*Dreamland: The True Tale of America's
Opiate Epidemic* by **Sam Quinones**

**St. Joseph Central Catholic High School
Summer 2017 Selected Reading Assignment**

English 11

The intention of this assignment is to help you improve the important skill of interacting with a text as you read. In a spiral or bound notebook, you will record annotations that account for and correspond with each individual page of the selected text you read.

You should write about two to three complete sentences of original thought per page of text read.

However, you should not feel restricted by this minimal requirement: jot down your ideas, feelings, questions, and mental connections to other things in your own world *whenever* you read an intriguing bit of text.

How to Annotate: Use the below prompts to help inspire your annotation journal entries. You **MUST** change these up; you **CANNOT** use the same one consecutively (i.e., back-to-back):

- Notice and comment upon a literary device - simile, metaphor, alliteration, repetition, irony, symbolism, etc. What effect does it create for you?
- Discuss a part that is confusing to you.
- Ask the author a question about a passage.
- Jot down any connections to other texts, movies, or historic/current events that your notice. Is the author alluding to something else? If so, discuss this.
- Explain the moments of emotional impact. How are you feeling? Is this what the author hoped you would feel? How did the author create this feeling in you?
- Why did the author phrase a passage in a particular way? What is the effect of the word choice?
- Do you agree or disagree with an idea being presented? Why?
- When you encounter a word that you don't know, look it up in the dictionary and write down its definition.
- Discuss your changing feelings toward specific characters. What's caused this shift?
- Describe what's missing in the text. What do you wish the author had included?
- Use your inference skills. Is the author using a passage or relationship to try to tell you something deeper than what is being said directly?
- Does the text remind you of anything in your own life? Discuss.

How to Format: On the first page of your notebook please include the following: Your name, English 11, Book Title, Author, Publisher, Edition (if applicable), total number of pages.

*For each annotation entry, you must write the page number along with your 2-3 sentence entry.

Check out these models of what to do – and what **not** to do:

DO THIS → p. 83 Thunder cracks outside as Vivian walks into the room, which gives me a small knot in my stomach. I think the author is using that weather effect to make readers fear this new character. Will Vivian be the ultimate villain of this story or is the author just trying to trick me?

NOT THIS → p. 83 I LOVE this! I'm so happy right now.

DO THIS → p. 107 The author keeps taking us back to this post office. This is the third time we've been here, so I'm wondering what's significant about this. I think it might be symbolically important, but I don't get it. Author, what's with your post office obsession?

NOT THIS → p. 107 Wait, what? I don't understand.

*The key to writing successful annotation entries is being specific. Don't just tell me that something is making you feel sad, but *why exactly* it's making you feel sad. What *kind* of sad? Is that sadness connected to something else? BE SPECIFIC!

**Grading Disclaimer: Only correctly formatted annotation journals will be accepted for grading, so, please follow guidelines outlined above. If I cannot read your handwriting, I cannot grade your journal; so, if your penmanship is not of the best quality, plan on typing your journal entries and having them professionally bound or doing so yourself neatly in a pronged folder. This assignment is due on the first official day of school. You will lose 5% of your grade each day your assignment is late; I will not accept the assignment after 3 days.