

## BCS HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER READING – 2019 ACADEMIC AND PRE-AP

Students are required to read a book over the summer. The titles for this year are listed below. Each student is required to annotate the book from his/her grade level. Annotations guidance is attached. In addition to the annotation assignment, there will be a test over the book during the first couple of weeks of school in August.

### 9TH GRADE ACADEMIC & PRE-AP: *Of Mice and Men*, by John Steinbeck

They are an unlikely pair: George is "small and quick and dark of face"; Lennie, a man of tremendous size, has the mind of a young child. Yet they have formed a "family," clinging together in the face of loneliness and alienation. Laborers in California's dusty vegetable fields, they hustle work when they can, living a hand-to-mouth existence. For George and Lennie have a plan: to own an acre of land and a shack they can call their own. When they land jobs on a ranch in the Salinas Valley, the fulfillment of their dream seems to be within their grasp. But even George cannot guard Lennie from the provocations of a flirtatious woman, nor predict the consequences of Lennie's unswerving obedience to the things George taught him.

"A thriller, a gripping tale . . . that you will not set down until it is finished. Steinbeck has touched the quick." —The New York Times (Amazon)

### 10TH GRADE ACADEMIC & PRE-AP: *The Scarlet Letter*, by Nathaniel Hawthorne

Like all of Hawthorne's novels, "The Scarlet Letter" has but a slender plot and but few characters with an influence on the development of the story. Its great dramatic force depends entirely on the mental states of the actors and their relations to one another, —relations of conscience, — relations between wronged and wrongers. Its great burden is the weight of unacknowledged sin as seen in the remorse and cowardice and suffering of the Rev. Arthur Dimmesdale. Contrasted with his concealed agony is the constant confession, conveyed by the letter, which is forced upon Hester, and has a double effect, — a healthful one, working beneficently, and making her helpful and benevolent, tolerant and thoughtful; and an unhealthful one, which by the great emphasis placed on her transgression, the keeping her forever under its ban and isolating her from her fellows, prepares her to break away from the long repression and lapse again into sin when she plans her flight. Roger Chillingworth is an embodiment of subtle and refined revenge. The book, though corresponding in its tone and burden to some of the shorter stories, had a more startling and dramatic character, and a strangeness, which at once took hold of a larger public than any of those had attracted. Though imperfectly comprehended, and even misunderstood in some quarters, it was seen to have a new and unique quality; and Hawthorne's reputation became national. (Amazon)

## FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

Below are definitions and examples of some types of figurative language.

**HYPERBOLE** – an exaggerated statement that is used to emphasize a point and is not meant to be taken seriously

**EXAMPLE:** I'm so hungry I could eat a horse.

**IDIOM** – a saying that doesn't make sense if you just look at the individual words but that is commonly understood; an expression

**EXAMPLE:** He's a couch potato.

**METAPHOR** – a comparison of two unlike things without using "like" or "as"

**EXAMPLE:** Life is a rose.

**OXYMORON:** a type of paradox consisting of a pair of contradicting words that makes up an expression

**EXAMPLE:** jumbo shrimp

**PARADOX:** a statement that includes elements that contradict each other and that may appear illogical, impossible, or absurd but in fact have a logical meaning that reveals a hidden truth

**EXAMPLE:** You have to spend money to make money.

**PERSONIFICATION:** the giving of human qualities to an inanimate object, abstract idea, or animal

**EXAMPLE:** The wind cried in the dark.

**SIMILE:** a comparison of two unlike things using "like" or "as"

**EXAMPLE:** Life is like a rose.

**SYMBOL:** an object, person, place, or action that has both a meaning in itself and that stands for something larger than itself, such as a quality, attitude, belief, or value.

**EXAMPLE:** The tortoise represents slow but steady progress.

**UNDERSTATEMENT:** a statement that, in order to make a point, purposely represents something as being much less than it really is

**EXAMPLE:** Said in a hurricane: "There is a little bit of wind."

## ANNOTATION RUBRIC

- Setting Notes:** As you read, take note of the setting. Answer questions such as: *Where does the story take place? When does the story take place? Why is it important that the story take place in this time or space?*  
Make a total of 5 notes about setting. \_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts)
- Character Notes:** As you meet and get to know characters, take notes about them. Make sure you have notes over each main character. Answer questions such as: *What is this character's personality like? How does this character think? How does this character interact with other characters? How is this character alike or different from other characters? What spiritual characteristics do you see in this character? What spiritual characteristics could the character benefit from having?*  
Make a total of 10 notes about characters. \_\_\_\_\_ (30 pts)
- Mood Notes:** As you read the story, write notes about the atmosphere of the work or about how it makes you feel. *Is it gloomy? Is it festive? Is it inspiring? Is it strange? Is it exciting?*  
Also consider *why* or *how* it makes you feel this way.  
Make a total of 5 notes about mood. \_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts)
- Figurative Language Notes:** As you read, make notes on some of the figurative language you see. If you would like to review figurative language, see the attached sheet.  
Make a total of 5 notes about figurative language. \_\_\_\_\_ (15 pts)
- Theme Notes:** Once you get far enough into your book that you can see a theme developing, start making notes about it. In order to recognize theme, ask yourself: *What is the author trying to say through his work? What message do I hear? What is a biblical connection to the theme?* If you need to go back and add notes after you are finished reading, you may do so.  
Make a total of 3 notes on theme. \_\_\_\_\_ (9 pts)
- Personal Connections Notes:** Sometimes when we read, we make personal connections to things in the story. As you read, make note of things that connect with your life, stick in your thoughts, remind you of other books you've read, speak to you spiritually, or make any other kind of connection for you.  
Make a total of 2 notes about personal connections. \_\_\_\_\_ (6 pts)
- Coverage:** Notes should be spread out over the entire book. \_\_\_\_\_ (10 pts)

TOTAL GRADE \_\_\_\_\_ (100 pts)

# BCS ANNOTATION ASSIGNMENT

Annotating is basically having a conversation about the book while reading it. In order to document your conversation, you will write down your thoughts on a sticky note and stick it in the book on the page you are reading when your ideas happen. You should spread your notes out over the whole book.

Attached is the annotation rubric. It shows the requirements for the number of sticky notes you will use and the information you will write on them.

## EXAMPLE of how to annotate a text

On each annotation, be sure to include what you found in the text *plus* YOUR COMMENTARY on what it means or suggests -

"This means ...." or

"This shows the author is saying...."

from *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

"But that would just nibble the edges. The whole culture's shot through. The ~~show~~ needs melting and re-shaping. Good God, it isn't as simple as just picking up a book you laid down half a century ago. Remember, the firemen are rarely necessary. The public itself stopped reading of its own accord. You firemen provide a circus now and then at which buildings are set off and crowds gather for the pretty blaze, but it's a small sideshow indeed, and hardly necessary to keep things in line. So few want to be rebels any more. And out of those few, most, like myself, scare easily. Can you dance faster than the White Clown, shout louder than 'Mr. Gimmick' and the parlour you'll win your way, Montag. In any event, you're a fool. People

what you found

Theme note

"Firemen are rarely necessary. The public stopped reading of its own accord."

This means the people are accepting the government's rules and adapting to them without question - even though the rules are detrimental to the people.

Murdering!"

been moving east all the time they talked, and only now did the sten, feeling the great jet sound tremble inside themselves.

Let the war turn off the 'families.' Our civilization is flinging itself back from the centrifuge."

Someone ready when it blows up."

g Milton? Saying, I remember Sophocles? Reminding the

has his good side, too? They will only gather up their stones to

Montag, go home. Go to bed. Why waste your final hours racing

Whying you're a squirrel?"

be any more?"

sick."

me?"

your commentary