

Sunlake High School
English 2 Honors
2018 Summer Reading Assignment

The two assigned texts for prospective English 2 Honors students are:

- *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (1984) by George Orwell.
- *Sin Boldly!: Dr. Dave's Guide To Writing The College Paper* by David R. Williams

You are tasked with annotating EACH of these texts; these are expected to be complete prior to the first day of school. See the mock Q&A below for details.

In addition, you will be given an in-class, essay-based test within the first week of school. This assessment is designed to require adept comprehension of both texts as well as proficient writing skills in order to express well-conceived ideas in response to the given prompt(s).

*Your annotations and performance on the in-class test will constitute
a significant portion of your Quarter 1 grade.*

What even is an annotation?

Annotations are critical, interpretative, or explanatory notes added to a body of text.

How do I annotate these texts?

Use a writing utensil to make notes either directly in your books or via sticky notes placed within the books. Annotations may be demonstrated by underlined, highlighted, bracketed, circled, or otherwise marked text and self-written corresponding commentary in the margins.*

What should I annotate?

For quality purposes, be discriminating! If you mark (underline, highlight, etc.) everything, you may as well have marked nothing. For example, you don't need to underline every example of a figurative language—only those that have a major impact. See the chart below for details.

How much should I annotate?

As for quantity, you should have at least 2 annotations per every 5 pages of text in order to best demonstrate your dedication to and understanding of the texts.

*NO CREDIT will be given for simply marking the text alone; you must also have meaningful written marginalia. Think of and respond to questions such as: Why did you mark this portion? What do you want to say (or ask) about the portion you marked? What is the overall effect of this portion on the text as a whole?

The following table includes content you may find ripe for annotating via marking in the text (left) and added commentary (right):

What should I mark?	What should I write in the margins?
Figurative language that demands interpretation (metaphors, similes, personification, etc.)	Your interpretation of the figurative language (<i>What does the author literally mean?</i>)
Remarkable imagery that impacts the tone (language that evokes the senses)	Words that describe the tone, based on what you've underlined
Striking examples of loaded language (a powerful word choice with a distinct connotation)	Idea or feeling the word evokes
Unknown vocabulary words (including text-specific vocab., such as "Newspeak" in <i>1984</i>)	Definitions (Be sure it's a definition that makes sense in its context!)
Puzzling text (a series of lines or a passage that confuses you)	Predictions, possibilities, questions, or clarifications needed to understand this text
Text that leads to a personal connection (to your life or other literature, film, television, music you have experienced)	Note the connection (comparison or contrast)
Textual evidence that supports an opinion you have or an insight you've made (characterization, plot, setting, point of view, or theme)	Your opinion or insight based on what you've underlined
Text that leads to a personal connection (to your life or other literature, film, television, music you have experienced)	Note the connection (comparison or contrast)
Allusions to a person, place, event, thing, etc. known from literature, history, religion, mythology, politics, science, or popular culture	Note the connection (comparison or contrast)
Symbols/motifs that may be significant	What the symbol/motif is/may be representing
Themes the text might be attempting to articulate	Comment on the main idea(s) the author may be communicating about the theme(s).

Note: Formalized sentence structure is not always necessary in annotations. Bullet points & incomplete sentences ARE permitted as notes within your marginalia, so long as your thoughts are clearly articulated. You may also wish to provide a symbol "key" in the beginning pages of the books if you elect to use your own consistent methods of marking the texts.