

3H Summer Assignments:

Please read the following texts:

1. *Slouching Towards Bethlehem* by Joan Didion
2. *The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan
3. *A Good Man is Hard to Find and Other Short Stories* by Flannery O'Connor

How to Annotate Your Text:

Front Cover: Inside the front cover of your book, keep an orderly, legible list of “key information” with page references. Key information might include themes; passages that relate to the book’s title; people’s names; salient quotes; important scenes; passages, and chapters.

Within the text:

- A. Circle, then define, unknown words
- B. Squiggly-underline examples of figurative language (symbol, personification, irony, etc.)
- C. Underline interesting uses of language (syntax, diction, rhetorical devices, etc.)
- D. [Bracket] words, phrases, or sentences that relate to the larger meaning of the work

Chapters/ Sections

1. At the end of each chapter or section, briefly summarize the material.
2. Title each chapter or section as you finish it, especially if the text does not provide headings for chapters or sections.

Back Page: Make a list of vocabulary words on a back page or inside the back cover. Possible ideas for lists include the author’s special jargon and new, unknown, or otherwise interesting words.

One Pager:

After reading each book, write a 1-2 page composition (300-500 words minimum) about each text. These responses should take into account the following:

1. Major themes and symbols
2. Important characters
3. The major takeaway, the author’s *purpose* for writing the text(s) – what is the significance? Why read it?

4. The historical context of the text(s) – you will have to look up and read a bit about the genre and time period (ex: the Southern Gothic and Flannery O'Connor)

EVALUATION:

Students will be graded on:

- (1) WRITTEN ANNOTATIONS AND ONE-PAGERS: due first day of class.
- (2) WRITTEN ASSESSMENT BASED ON TEXTS: will be done within first two weeks of class