

English 12H 2019-2020

Capstone Project

Overall goal of project: Choose 1 author and read 3 books written by this person. Annotate each book for the following elements of literature: **theme, setting and context, writing style, characterization, and symbol/motif**. At the end of the course, you will write an argumentative essay AND give a class speech about your chosen author with regards to these element of literature.

Summer 2019: Read and annotate one of your three books. Perform a close reading of the novel; i.e. a slow and careful reading of the text. As you read, annotate by noting and commenting on the significance of passages related to the following literary categories:

1. **theme:** a main idea developed over the course of the text
2. **setting and context:** time and place, other contextual factors
3. **writing style:** descriptive and figurative language, imagery, word choice, sentence fluency, tone
4. **characterization:** the creation and development of major and minor characters throughout the text
5. **symbol/motif:** a recurring image or idea meant to represent something else

Annotate using post-it notes directly over the line on which you are commenting. Label your post-it with the literary element to which it refers and the page number (in case they fall out). You should have at least 10 post-it notes for each literary element (a total of 50). Please disperse these annotations throughout the book, rather than in just one or two sections.

Please see the additional resources posted in Google Classroom for help and examples. You can also post questions directly in Google Classroom if you need to!

Your first capstone book and annotations will be collected on the first day of school. It is entirely your responsibility to complete this assignment over the summer and to bring it with you on the first day of school. Late projects will lose points.