

**Isle of Wight Academy**  
**2022 Required Summer Reading Novel List**  
**10<sup>th</sup> Grade**

The goals of the summer reading assignments for IWA are to improve literacy and to promote lifelong reading. As students grow and mature, they need to continually practice their reading skills. The lists are based on recommendations from classroom teachers, librarians, students, and the College Board. Each reading selection has an assignment designed to enhance the reading, thought processes and message of the selection.

Please note: Works read in this class may involve challenging topics, situations, or subject matter.

**You will choose one of the following books to read and annotate.**

**I. Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng**

In Shaker Heights, a placid, progressive suburb of Cleveland, everything is planned – from the layout of the winding roads, to the colors of the houses, to the successful lives its residents will go on to lead. And no one embodies this spirit more than Elena Richardson, whose guiding principle is playing by the rules.

Enter Mia Warren – an enigmatic artist and single mother – who arrives in this idyllic bubble with her teenage daughter, Pearl, and a disregard for the status quo that threatens to upend this carefully ordered community. Suspicious of Mia and her motives, Elena is determined to uncover the secrets in Mia’s past. However, her obsession will come at unexpected and devastating costs.

**II. A Lesson Before Dying by Ernest J. Gaines**

Set in a small Cajun community in the late 1940’s, *A Lesson Before Dying* is about Jefferson, a young black man, who is an unwitting party to a liquor store shootout in which three men are killed. He is the only survivor, is convicted of murder, and sentenced to death. Grant Wiggins, who left his hometown for the university, has returned to the plantation school to teach. As he struggles with his decision whether to stay or escape to another state, his aunt and Jefferson’s godmother persuade him to visit Jefferson in his cell and impart his learning and his pride to Jefferson before his death. In the end, the two men forge a bond as they both come to understand the heroism of resisting – and defying – the unexpected.

**ASSIGNMENT:** Read and annotate your chosen novel. See the annotation guidelines provided. Using the attached instructions, complete a one-pager for your chosen novel. Be sure to include all elements and requirements.

The assignment is due on the first day of class.

# HOW TO ANNOTATE

- Underline anything that seems important
- Circle literary elements you notice
- Draw lines between connected points
- Mark things you don't understand with a ?
- Use line spaces for notes and interpretation
- Put a box around the most important details
- Summarize the main points in margins
- Use the bottom white space to brainstorm outline

**IT'S ONLY WRONG IF YOU DON'T DO ANYTHING!**

**Outside Reading Book One Pager Instructions**

**Explanation:** A one pager is a single page visual and symbolic response to a literary work. It is a way to be creative and experimental. It is a way to be imaginative. It is a way to be brief and bold.

**Purpose:** A one pager allows you to connect the book's thoughts to your thoughts, to connect words and images, to connect the verbal and the visual. It is a personal interpretation and should be original, meaningful, and deliberate.

**Medium:** Use an unlined 8.5x11 piece of paper.

**Elements: 1)** The **title** of the novel written and represented in a symbolic way. Include the **author's name** smaller font below or next to the title.

**2)** Somewhere in the vicinity of the title, write an **essential question** (universal significance, profound, relevant) for book that is related to one of its main motifs or recurring. For example, "In the face of adversity, why do some succeed while others fail?"

**3)** A border which represents a **universal theme** for your book. Somewhere within or next to the border, list the theme in the form of a statement. You'll want to first think of a thematic topic from the book (ex: courage), and then generate a statement about it, such as "Courage allows us to overcome the fear of failure and attempt the impossible."

**4)** An image in the upper left-hand corner with a **quotation** woven into or around it. This image should somehow represent what you consider to be the **most important symbol** from the text.

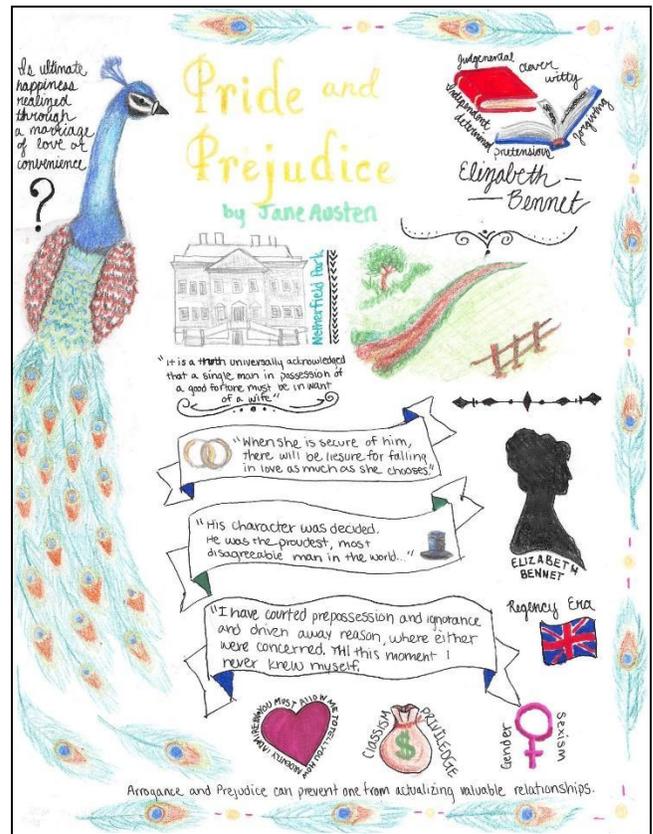
**5)** Images and/or doodled words in the upper right-hand corner that represent a **key character(s)** from the text, and perhaps how they changed or evolved.

**6)** Images and quotations in the lower left-hand corner that show the author's **style of writing** and their command of language.

**7)** Images and/or words in the bottom right-hand corner that show **connections** between the **themes** and ideas in the writing and something from our **world** (life, literature, art, culture, history, politics, etc).

**8)** Words and/or images that show the significance of the **setting** in some way.

**Considerations:** Go beyond the obvious. Be creative, symbolic, and profound. Avoid common or cliché symbols. You can use the author's symbols, but you should also use your own. Base some of your images and symbolic words on



a

in

your  
ideas.

