

English 11 Summer Reading 2019

Read and annotate *Kindred* by Octavia Butler. (fiction). For this assignment, you will have to purchase an edition of this book that is not already written in. "To annotate" simply means to make notes, to write in the margins and pages of the book (**see the next page for detailed directions**). Annotating is **not** underlining or highlighting. If you underline anything, you should write a note in the margin that has an explanation/ thought/reaction.

- Annotate for the following symbols and images: **water** (in the form of rivers, rain, etc.); **dogs; violence** (weapons, whips, assaults, etc.); **spiritual/religious references** (there will not be many); **historical elements related to the setting/time period.** As you notice these symbols, write in the margins why you think they are being used. What may they represent?
- Annotate whenever you notice actions or dialogue that relate to the theme of power and how power situates itself within race, sex, class and wealth.
- Inside the front cover, keep a list of the characters.
ALL WORK MUST BE WRITTEN IN THE TEXT. No work on cards, sticky notes, or in a Word document will be accepted.
- Inside the back cover, make a list of themes, allusions, images, key scenes, and the overall plot line.

You will receive a major grade for your completed annotations. Enjoy reading!!

Active Reading – How to Annotate a Book

Adapted from *How to Read a Book* (Mortimer Adler and Charles Van Doren) Source: K. Tompkins – Adapted by V. Blair

ANNOTATING (making notes or marking up the text) is the first step in close reading. Annotating:

- slows down the reader,
- helps the reader to stay focused and involved with the text, and improves concentration and

comprehension

To standardize your annotations in a novel, your notes should follow this format:

Inside front cover: Character list (allow a bit of space for character summary or details, page numbers of key scenes, etc.

Inside back cover: Themes, allusions, images, motifs, key scenes, plot line, etc. List and add page numbers as you read.

Page margins

Top: key scene or new character

Sides and bottom: notes (Reading Signposts, important passages, symbols, syntax, imagery, figurative language, other critical analysis notes)

Chapter Titles:

If the chapters have titles, pay particular attention. Make a note under (or above/beside) the title to explain how it relates to the chapter.

Ends of Chapters

Often an author ends a chapter with a key motif, symbol, idea, or theme. Pay particular attention to the ends of the chapters and make a note accordingly.

Epigraphs

If an author includes an epigraph (or several epigraphs), make a note by the epigraph to explain how it relates to the text.

Bracket – key passages

Underlining—keep to a minimum. Always make a note to remind yourself why you underlined what you underlined.

Avoid highlighters; switching between a pen to make notes and a highlighter is a waste of time.