

## CHS IB/AP 12 ENGLISH SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT 2017




April Brewington ([brewington.april@cusd80.com](mailto:brewington.april@cusd80.com))  
 Amy Komitzky-Henning ([komitzkyhenning.amy@cusd80.com](mailto:komitzkyhenning.amy@cusd80.com))  
 Dan Sapakie ([sapakie.dan@cusd80.com](mailto:sapakie.dan@cusd80.com))

A successful IB English student generally enjoys reading, looking for meaning in text, and is desperate to talk about this meaning. You will be expected to think deeply and write copiously next year in this class, and careful attention to the summer reading and annotation assignment will prepare you for such an experience.

Please focus ONLY on what is mentioned here...*avoid plot summary and unnecessary commentary*. Your annotations will be good if they are thoughtful and purposeful. Effective annotation is NOT simply covering your pages with writing.

As with many pieces of literature that you will encounter in IB and AP classes, these are works of adult fiction. **As with all IB/AP material, we request that you read with an adult level of maturity and understanding.**

Novel	Annotate for:	Challenges to consider:
 <p><b><i>Siddhartha</i></b>  <b>by Hermann Hesse</b>                      Available by purchase, from the CHS library, and online as a pdf file as it's in the public domain</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Author's use of narration, plot structure, motif, and figurative language</li> <li>• Archetypes</li> <li>• Quotes that you find intriguing, memorable, or significant to the work as a whole</li> </ul>	<p>There's "a good dose of European angst and stubborn individualism," in <i>Siddhartha</i>, as well as a search for truth in India (Amazon).</p> <p><small>Amazon.com Review. "Siddhartha." <i>Amazon.com</i>. Amazon.com, 2016. Web. 26 May 2016.</small></p>
<p><b>Short Stories</b></p> <p><b>"Diary of a Madman" by Lu Xun and "Kallu" by Ismat Chughati</b></p> <p>There is a link to these short stories on the webpages of your IB/AP 12 English teachers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Author's use of narration, figurative language, and theme</li> <li>• Archetypes</li> <li>• Quotes that you find intriguing, memorable, or significant to the work as a whole</li> </ul>	<p>Any/all connections you find between these works and each short story and <i>Siddhartha</i>.</p>

## **Assignments and Expectations**

### **1. Read the novels.**

**EXPECTATION:** You are **NOT** to consult literary criticisms, the internet, commercially available “study guide” notes, or other students; use of these sources constitutes an honor code violation, as the annotations you make using them will not be of your own, independent thinking. You need to show me what YOU see in the novels. You cannot make a mistake, unless you fail to do any annotations. Annotation instructions are below. The rubric is on the following page.

### **2. Annotate as you read each novel.**

- a. **Purpose:** While you study a literary work, you should be in the habit of taking notes as you read. As you read the novels in this class, you will be asked to annotate them for elements an author uses in order to effectively communicate ideas. Annotations should not get in the way of your reading- they should engage your own reflection and analysis of particular aspects of the work.

Your annotations should cover the *entire* work. Your job is to consider this novel through this a variety of lenses and discover HOW the author goes about treating the subject. THINK about what you are noting – and consider its significance. Do not just write in the book to write – make notes that allow you to assess the author’s purpose.

- b. **Process:** You can underline directly in your own copy of the novel and note your ideas in the margin, you can use sticky-notes to take notes and place them directly on the pages, or you could maintain a “reading journal” if that suits you better.

### **3. Creative Connection Project**

Use your creative abilities to illustrate an intriguing and/or significant connection you find between the two texts. Use symbolic elements from the novels, plot elements, and characters in your representation. I do not wish to give you a specific way to accomplish this task, as I would like to free your creative energies.

### **4. Essay**

Write a 2-page essay explaining the connection(s) represented by your creative project. Be certain to use specific text references in your discussion; use MLA format.

### **5. All work is due by the third week of class for major grades, yet the reading must be done by the first day of school.**

**Please contact your instructor at the email address on page 1 if you have questions. “I did not understand what to do” will not be an acceptable excuse for not having the assignments completed.**

(Annotations adapted from Gertz/Morris IB English; project adapted from Murray/Sellars AP English)

## Annotating a Text:

Annotation is a key component of close reading. Since we will annotate texts all year, you need to develop a system that works for you (within the following guidelines). Effective annotating is both economical and consistent. The techniques are almost limitless. Use any **combination** of the following:

- Make brief comments in the margins. Use any white space available - inside cover, random blank pages
- Make brief comments between or within lines of the text. Do not be afraid to mark within the text itself. In fact, you must.
- Circle or put boxes, triangles, or clouds around words or phrases.
- Use abbreviations or symbols - brackets, stars, exclamation points, question marks, numbers, etc.
- Connect words, phrases, ideas, circles, boxes, etc. with lines or arrows.
- \*Underline – CAUTION: Use this method sparingly. Underline only a few words. **Always combine** with another method such as comment. Never underline an entire passage. Doing so takes too much time and loses effectiveness. If you wish to mark an entire paragraph or passage, draw a line down the margin or use brackets.
- \*Highlight – See *underline*. You cannot write with a highlighter anyway.
- Create your own code.
- Use post-it notes **only** if you have exhausted all available space (unlikely).

## Close Reading:

What should you annotate? Again, the possibilities are limitless. Keep in mind the reasons we annotate. (Reread the second paragraph of this letter.) Your annotations **must** include comments. I want to see evidence of thinking.

Note for AP Lit: Many of these suggestions will not apply to *Elements of Style*

- Have a conversation with the text. Talk back to it.
  - Ask questions (essential to active reading).
  - Comment on the actions or development of a character. Does the character change? Why? How? the result?
  - Comment on something that intrigues, impresses, amuses, shocks, puzzles, disturbs, repulses, aggravates, etc.
  - Comment on lines / quotations you think are especially significant, powerful, or meaningful.
  - Express agreement or disagreement.
  - Summarize key events. Make predictions.
  - Connect ideas to each other or to other texts.
  - Note if you experience an epiphany.
  - Note anything you would like to discuss or do not understand.
  - Note how the author uses language. Note the significance if you can.
    - effects of word choice (diction) or sentence structure or type (syntax)
    - point of view / effect
    - repetition of words, phrases, actions, events - patterns
    - narrative pace / time / order of sequence of events
    - irony\*\*\*
    - contrasts / contradictions / juxtapositions / shifts
    - allusions
    - any other figure of speech or literary device
- |                             |
|-----------------------------|
| reliability of narrator     |
| motifs or cluster ideas     |
| tone / mood                 |
| imagery                     |
| themes                      |
| setting / historical period |
| symbols                     |

The most common complaint about annotating is that it slows down your reading. Yes, it does. That's the point. If annotating as you read annoys you, read a chapter, then go back and annotate. Reading a text a second time is preferable anyway.