

English I – Freshman English SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

Required Reading:

Numbers by Rachel Ward

Note: It is highly recommended that you buy your own copy of this book for annotation and reference purposes. We will be using the book for the first few weeks of school for projects and assignments.

Messenger by Lois Lowry (optional) ***

Empty by Suzanne Weyn (optional) ***

If I ever get out of here by Eric Gansworth (optional) ***

All students are expected to read *Numbers*. For this novel, the students will read and annotate this text. Refer to the annotation steps attached to guide your notes. We fully expect that you will be prepared to discuss the book when you arrive on the first day of school. Any notes you make should be thorough and insightful and not merely a summary. Expect a variety of assignments and a written component to be completed in the first few weeks of school.

Guide to Annotating Informational Text

Steps for annotating:

1. Use the margins to make notes about HOW the information is presented. Do not summarize, rewrite WHAT is presented, or simply identify strategies. Rather, focus on the way the strategies make the information effective.
Ex: The author is appealing to the reader's sense of emotion here to evoke a sense of sympathy for the underdog.
2. Place a question mark (?) next to unfamiliar words, and define them with a one word synonym.
3. Circle loaded words that are chosen for the purpose of persuasion. These are words that may indicate a bias or have a strong connotation.
4. Place an asterisk (*) next to important ideas.
5. Look at any charts, graphs, tables, or graphics. Write a note that describes the purpose of including it with the text. How does it add to the information?
6. Chapter Reflection: After reading each chapter, stop and think about the information holistically. What is the gist of the chapter? Make note of this.

*** Students are **required** to read two books that are labeled optional and be prepared to discuss them during the first week of school.