Academy for Classical Education

Summer Reading for Students Entering ELEVENTH GRADE

The reading assignments below are for students entering the 11th grade in the fall of 2020.

You should purchase your own copy of the novel. It is a huge advantage to be able to take notes in the margins and underline or highlight notable passages. Should you study this novel again in college, your own annotated and highlighted copies will be invaluable. These books are available at local bookstores, as well as through online retailers such as amazon.com.

*News of the World* by Paulette Jiles
ISBN- 978-0062409218

Please note: Any edition is acceptable.

All assignments due August 1, 2020

Assignment 1: Annotate Your Book (formative assessment)
While reading the novel, you should be actively engaged in annotating. [Chapter 1 annotations](#) have been completed for you. Copy them and use them as a guide to help you annotate the rest of the chapters.

Annotations will be graded according to the following rubric:

100/95: Novels are thoroughly and completely annotated, with relevant passages of text marked throughout the book and thoughtful notes written in the headers, footers, and margins.
90/85: Novels are reasonably well-annotated, but not as thoroughly or completely as those at the top level. Passages marked are relevant and notes are written in the headers, footers, and margins, but with less evidence of thoughtfulness and thoroughness as those at the top level.
80/75: Novels are annotated with passages marked only sporadically. Notes are present in the headers, footers, and margins, but may be overly simplistic and/or not indicative of thoughtfulness about the passage to which they refer.
65: Novels are only partly annotated, with few passages marked and few notes present in the headers, footers, and margins. The effort put forth suggests haste rather than thoughtfulness.

Assignment 2: Test over *News of the World* (summative assessment)
On the first day of school, you will take a test over the novel. You will be permitted to use YOUR annotated novel on the test.
How to Annotate a Book

1. Use a pen so you can make circles, brackets, and notes. You can use a highlighter to mark passages, lines, or individual words, but you **MUST** make notes in the margins. Otherwise, you’re merely coloring.

2. Mark passages, lines, or individual words that jump out at you. You might circle them, underline them, use brackets (i.e. [    ]), or identify them in some other way. You should mark passages, lines, or individual words which:
   a. Suggest an important idea or theme.
   b. Contain an interesting figure of speech.
   c. Demonstrate a pattern of word use or sentence structure, striking or recurring imagery, symbolism, words or phrases, motifs, or noteworthy ways of characterizing people, events, ideas, or issues.
   d. Contain foreshadowing, an important plot point, clues about the setting, or passages and dialogue that reveal insight into a particular character.
   e. Are words you don’t know. For those, write a short definition of the word in the margin.

3. Make notes in the headers, footers, and margins.
   a. What should be in these notes?
      i. Your thoughts about the passages, lines, and words you’ve marked.
         1. For example, if you marked a passage because it seems to summarize the theme of the novel, you should indicate this in the header, footer, or margin.
         2. If you marked a line because it uses a recurring symbol, you should indicate this in the header, footer, or margin.
      ii. Comments – your agreements or disagreements.
      iii. Personal experiences that the text reminds you of.
      iv. Associations:
         1. What associations does this particular passage, line, or word bring to mind for you?
         2. Does the passage remind you of a song? A novel or short story? A fairy tale? Something from Shakespeare or the Bible? A painting, poem, movie, or play?
         3. Basically, does the text you’ve marked remind you of other creative works you have encountered?

4. At the ends of chapters or sections, write a bulleted list of key plot events. This forces you to think about what happened, helps you to see the novel as a whole, aids in identifying patterns, and creates a summary of the plot for your review later. You are not re-writing the book here; a few bullet points are enough.