



Summer Reading Assignment: *The Hobbit* by JRR Tolkien

Annotation assignment: To annotate a text means to take notes on the pages of a text while reading. It is a way of engaging with and entering into an author's art and ideas. The goal is to have a rich, satisfying, thought-provoking reading experience.

1. Underline and/or star key sentences (thesis statements, important topic sentences of sections, etc).
2. Circle and define any words that you cannot understand from the context.
3. Ask questions in the margins (example: "Is this true?" "What's his evidence?" "Why is this character angry?" "This symbol seems important, what's it mean?" etc).
4. Make comments about your own thoughts about/reactions to the text (example: "This character is crazy?" "I should tell my friend about this." "This character reminds me of me. Weird." "So true!").
5. Identify key symbols and speculate on their meaning, speculate on the book's themes as you go.

As readers annotate, they often develop an annotation system of their own. You will learn what works for you. For now, focus on beginning the reading with a sharp pencil and taking time to "talk back" to the text as you go. Begin reading early so that you can take your time with your annotations.

Annotate at least twice on each page of your book.

Your book must be read and annotated by the first day of school. Your annotations will be your first grade of the new school year.