

English I Summer Reading (Upcoming 9th Graders)

Summer Reading Project: *To Kill a Mockingbird* ISBN-13: 9780446310789 (ISBN specific)

Summary: A story of innocence, knowledge, prejudice and courage in a sleepy Alabama town.

Marks, symbols, etc.: Develop and use your own symbols for marking. Here are a few examples, but invent your own system so that you will develop a habit.

- * important point
- ! wow
- ? unclear; why did this happen
- + I agree; author has a good point
- I disagree; author is weak
- 1, 2, 3 first, second, third, etc.

Annotations: Write annotations in the margin about these important items.

- Circle the name of each character when you first meet him/her and underline descriptions of him/her.
- The narrative facts: Identify important facts such as who, what, where, when, why, etc. Use only one or two words for tagging these facts.
- Your personal comments: In the margin, write any important thoughts, insights, reactions, or emotions you have while reading. (I.e. “valuable insight,” “lame excuse,” “misuse of scripture by slave owner”)
- Questions: In the margin, pose questions. (I.e. “Why didn't she fight back?”)