



Dear Westmoore Parents and Honors Freshmen,

All Honors English classes are required to complete a summer reading assignment. The following book has been chosen for incoming freshmen of the 2020-2021 school year:

Rebecca by Daphne duMaurier

Students are to complete the reading of the assigned novel BEFORE the first day of school— August 13, 2020. As students read the novel, they are asked to make annotations in their copy of the book. The following page has directions/suggestions to accomplish this task in a meaningful manner.

Students should be prepared to take a comprehensive test over the entire novel, complete a timed essay and other projects/assignments during the first week of school. Individual teachers will assign due dates for these assignments at the beginning of the school year. **The novel must be brought to class on the first day and every day until further notice!**

Barnes and Noble bookstore (in Norman) will be stocked with these titles; the Moore/OKC Public Libraries are also aware of this summer reading and will have extra copies of this title for your convenience. Half-Priced Books on I-240 is also a good option for purchasing.

Please be aware that classes will be using the novel for quite some time during the first semester, so each student owning the book is preferred.

Respectfully,

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## Reading Annotation Tips

You will each annotate in your own way, but here are some suggestions to accomplish annotating in a mindful way.

- Use your own text. Write your name in a prominent place in the book.
- Use pencil/pen. If you use a highlighter, each highlighted passage should be accompanied by a penciled-in note.
- Use a star to mark important passages, or two or three stars to indicate increasingly pivotal moments in the text. Make notes about how/why passage is important/pivotal. How do you see this passage as effecting the plot?
- Use question marks to indicate confusing passages. Make sure to write a brief comment about your confusion.
- Look up unfamiliar words and write a definition or synonym in the margin.
- Use inside covers and “fly” pages (blank pages at beginning and end) to make notes, jot down questions, propose themes, etc.
- Notice any shifts in point-of-view? Setting? Mark it! Note in the margin how you feel this is important to the story.
- Good annotating is selective! Avoid marking everything as important.

Annotating a book well takes practice, but it is well worth the effort you put in. You’ll be surprised at how much richer and fuller your understanding of a book can be if you are awake (not just conscious, really AWAKE!) when you read.

A note about electronic books: You are welcome to read your book on a Kindle, iPad, or laptop, if available, but keep in mind that you must be able to create and access annotations for each work.