

Annotation Checklist

Use the following checklist to help you in the annotation process.

- Thoughts about the title
- Thought about the setting (dates, location descriptions)
- Your general reaction to the story and its message
- Your reactions to characters and events
- Character descriptions (think descriptive adjectives)
- Definitions of unfamiliar words (Unfamiliar words should be hi-lighted and defined)
- Notations of literary devices (Use the literary device handout for help)
- Connections between the story and your own experience (This reminds me of...)
- Questions (Written out, not just a “?”!)
- Answers to your questions (or at least attempts)
- Arguments with the author or characters
- Predictions about what will happen next
- Inferences and guesses about the author’s beliefs
- Significant themes
- Favorite passages (be sure to note why)
- Interesting or unusual words
- Patterns or repetition- of words, phrases, or events
- Notations about significant dates or character names (particularly aliases)
- Notations about main events of chapter (written at the beginning of each chapter)

Further instructions:

- You may use hi-lighters, but every hi-lighted word or passage should be accompanied by a comment in the margin. Hi-lighting alone is not sufficient for annotations and will not receive full credit.
- Avoid one or two word exclamations. They rarely count as quality annotations. (Examples: Wow! Ha! No! No Way! Boo! Gross! Awesome! Oh, No!)