

English 12 Summer Assignment

Rising English 12 students should read and annotate the following essays. Follow the link for access to a pdf.

- [“Living Like Weasels”](#) Annie Dillard
- [“A Small Place”](#) Jamaica Kincaid
- [“Consider the Lobster”](#) David Foster Wallace

Students should be prepared to discuss these essays when classes begin in August.

How to Annotate a Text

Annotation is a skill that helps a reader fully engage with a text and makes him/her a stronger reader. Annotation is NOT highlighting; it's the practice of marking places in a book that shows thinking and noticing of the writer's craft. While reading, please identify and mark the following:

1. Questions, thoughts, and reactions about the text
2. Connections to other readings, current events, and personal experiences
3. Literary devices (figurative language, foreshadowing, irony, etc)
4. Emerging themes, symbols, characterization
5. Unfamiliar words: circle and define them

Annotating this information will make you an informed reader and allow you to have better conversations about the book in class and improve your analytical writing. If you have the ability to print out the essays for annotation that would be preferred, but if this is not possible you may keep a journal of your annotations in a Google document or on paper. Annotations are due at the beginning of the year.

Questions? Please contact chriswilliamson@trintityes.org