

IB Language & Literature Year Two

Annotation & IOC Practice

Assignment Description:

In preparation for the Individual Oral Commentary you will do next quarter, you will practice annotating and preparing a short commentary on an extract of a short story or novel that we read and discussed in class the previous week. You will not know what extract you will be given until class on Monday. There will be three parts to this assignment: annotating the text, writing analysis notes based on your annotations, and giving a practice oral commentary. You will be given 20 minutes to read, annotate, and make notes on your given extract. The oral commentaries will last 10 minutes with subsequent questioning and additional discussion lasting 5 minutes.

Part I: Annotation Expectations

Annotating a text involves marking the text as you read to take note of important information necessary for deep analysis. To thoroughly and completely annotate a text, you should complete the following steps:

Before reading the text...

- read the title and any subtitles
- examine the illustrations
- examine the print (bold, italics, etc.)
- examine the way the text is set up (book, short story, diary, dialogue, article, etc.)
- as you examine and read these, write questions, make predictions, and draw connections in the margins.

As you read the text...

- Mark the text in the following ways:
 - **Circle** characters
 - **Box** description of setting (when/where)
 - Place a * next to unknown vocabulary (and look up the words!)
- In the margins, you are tracking your thoughts as you read. For example, you might:
 - identify audience and purpose: who is speaking? to whom? with what intent?
 - summarize key moments in the text (main ideas, exposition, climax, epiphanies, etc.)
 - note any possible symbols, imagery, figurative language
 - record themes as they appear
 - note possible foreshadowing.
 - record your opinions about events, characters, structure, etc.
 - describe the mood and tone of the text
 - describe a connection to yourself, the world, and other texts
 - ask authentic questions about the plot, characters, structure, literary devices, etc.
 - analyze the author's craft (why did the author write the story the way he/she did?)
 - reflect/react/comment on the plot, characters, structure, literary devices, etc.
 - identify patterns/repetitions of words/phrases, images, literary devices, etc.
 - describe the language: formal? informal? descriptive? short and choppy?
 - identify and describe the narrator

Part II: Analysis Notes

After you finished annotating, apply the following strategies to write a list of notes to explain/support your analysis of the extract. Ultimately, these notes will become the basis of your practice Individual Oral Commentary.

- Reread your annotations and draw conclusions.
- Reread the introduction and conclusion of the text to try to develop new perspectives.
- Examine patterns/repetition to determine possible meanings.
- Determine what the title might mean
- Remember to take note of passages that support your opinions!

Part III: Practice Commentary

Each week everyone will prepare an individual oral commentary on the extract given, however, not every student will *give* their oral commentaries in class. One pair of students will give their oral commentaries during class on Mondays. These practice oral commentaries will be shared with classmates so we are all able to gain a better understanding of how the process works and what we need to do in order to be successful when the time to give our IB IOCs comes!

Criterion A: Knowledge & understanding of the text:_____/5

- To what extent does the commentary show knowledge and understanding of the text?
- Are the comments supported by well-chosen references to the text?

Comments:

Criterion B: Understanding of the use and effects of literary features:_____/8

- To what extent does the commentary show an awareness of how the literary features in the text(for example structure or technique/style) are used to construct meaning?
- To what extent does the commentary show understanding of the effects of literary features?

Comments:

Criterion C: Organization_____/5

- How well organized is the commentary?
- How coherent is the structure?

Comments:

Criterion D: Language_____/5

- How clear, varied, and accurate is the language?
- How appropriate is the choice of register and style?

Comments: