

SUMMER READING 2010

ENGLISH 1 HONORS

Please read and annotate both novels. Annotating is a way of engaging with the text or “talking back to it!” As you read, you will make critical notes or comments in the margins of the novel and underline important points. Please use a highlighter as well as a pen or pencil. You will be annotating every text we read in the coming year; therefore, it is important to overcome any hesitancy you might have about marking up your books. 😊

Some suggestions for annotating (this list is not exhaustive; feel free to add to it!):

1. Underline words you don't understand (look them up).
2. Mark ideas which you find confusing.
3. Write in any questions you may have.
4. Underline recurring themes or motifs.
5. Note any personal connections you make with the text.
6. Note any unusual diction.
7. Underline all figurative language.

THE ASSIGNMENTS

Rebecca by Daphne du Maurier

Please write an **essay outline**. You will need a thesis statement, three topic sentences and evidence from the text to support your position. Please bring your outline and your annotated text to class. You **DO NOT** need to have completed an essay; we will be reviewing essay writing during the first 2 weeks of school.

Please choose **ONE** of the following topics:

1. Who is the “winner?” Is it the narrator or Rebecca? Explain your choice. What does the winner accomplish?
2. Is *Rebecca* a story of enslavement? Consider the narrator's life with Mrs. Van Hopper, her life with Maxim at Manderley, and her existence post Manderley. Do you believe the narrator accepts her enslavement? Also, consider her name and how this might be relevant to the idea of enslavement.

3. Who is the real Maxim de Winter? Is he an emotionally abusive husband, or is his behavior understandable? Does he truly love the narrator? Can you comprehend why the narrator finds Maxim appealing, or are you puzzled by her choice? What is your reaction to Maxim once you learn the truth about his feelings for Rebecca and the way she died? To what extent do you inhabit the narrator's world, so that it becomes increasingly difficult to look at the events with any objectivity?

***The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* by Muriel Spark**

Read and annotate. Be prepared to answer questions on this text during the first week of school.