LEARNING TARGETS: I will demonstrate my ability to critically analyze literature by producing annotations that include author’s purpose, connections, and questions.
I will build my vocabulary by using unfamiliar words in the context of new sentences.

PURPOSE: The English 10 Honors/Pre-AP course is designed to prepare you for the rigorous demands of subsequent AP high school courses and university courses; and thus, English 10 Honors requires a great deal of reading during the school year. Research indicates that the more a person reads, the better he/she reads, writes, spells and comprehends vocabulary.

ASSIGNMENT: In order to develop, sustain, and promote your habit of reading critically, the English 10 Honors teachers request that you read at least one book from the list below. You can purchase your own copy, borrow a copy from a friend, or check one out from the public library. If you are having trouble obtaining a book, please email one of us as soon as possible, as we do have some available copies in the main office.

DIRECTIONS: As you read, annotate your book by keeping notes, writing comments, making connections, explaining your opinion or asking a question on a post-it note within the text or on a separate sheet of paper that includes the corresponding page numbers. When we check for annotations, we’ll be looking for at least 30 annotations spread throughout the entire book (PLEASE NUMBER these notes 1-30). You must also select 10 vocabulary words in the text with which you are unfamiliar. These need to be new words to your own vocabulary. Look up and write the definitions and make a sentence using this word on a separate sheet of paper (these cannot be used as part of your 30 annotations). Refer to page 2 for information on how to annotate and how this 35 point assignment will be evaluated. Depending on your reading speed, we estimate that reading your book and completing the annotations will take about 3-5 hours.

DUE DATE: The assignment is due either September 4th or 5th, depending on when you have English class. Additionally, you will use your annotated notes to help you with other possible in-class assignments, including group work or an oral presentation, and ultimately for a timed-writing essay during the second week of school in September.

Books Choices: (Choose 1)

- Life of Pi by Yann Martel (fiction)
- Snow Flower & the Secret Fan by Lisa See (fiction)
- A Long Way Gone by Ishmael Beah (non-fiction)
- The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls (non-fiction)

Please note that the books for this assignment may contain mature content and/or controversial material (i.e. offensive language, violence, and/or implied or explicit sexual situations). The resources listed below can be used to see book reviews and get more information about the books.

- Fairfax County Library http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/
- Bartleby.com: Great Books Online http://www.bartleby.com
- Book Reporter http://www.bookreporter.com
- Book Spot http://www.bookspot.com/
- Teen Reads http://www.teenreads.com

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Annotating Instructions

ANNOTATING simply means marking the page as you read with comments, marks, and notes.

Annotating your book helps you better understand the book. When important passages occur, note them so that they can be easily located when it comes time to write an essay or respond to the literature. Marking key ideas will enable you to discuss the reading with more support and evidence than if you rely only on memory.

PART 1: TYPES OF THINGS TO MARK AND EXPLAIN:
- Insight into his or her character (and explain it in your notes)
- Images, objects, ideas that pop up repeatedly—motifs (and explain it in your notes)
- Passages relating to the theme (and explain it in your notes)
- Symbols (and explain it in your notes)
- Passages that indicate the tone—author’s attitude toward the subject (and explain it in your notes)
- Allusions (and explain it in your notes)
- Figurative language—similes, metaphors, personification, etc (and explain it in your notes)
- Passages that indicate the setting and the effect the setting has on the characters and plot (and explain it in your notes)
- Diction—effective, specific or unusual word choice (and explain it in your notes)
- Possible foreshadowing (and explain it in your notes)
- Irony (and explain it in your notes)
- Conflicts (state the type of conflict and explain it in your notes)

PART 2: VOCABULARY:
Select 10 vocabulary words in the text that you are unfamiliar with. These need to be new words to your own vocabulary. Look up and write the definitions and make a sentence using this word on a separate sheet of paper (these cannot be used as part of your 30 annotations).

Annotations Rubric:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>11-15 Exceptional</th>
<th>6-10 Satisfactory</th>
<th>0-5 Minimal/Incomplete</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level of Insight</td>
<td>Thorough annotations reveal an understanding of the complexities of the text (setting characterization, plot, and use of literary devices are analyzed and EXPLAINED THOROUGHLY on EACH note).</td>
<td>Text has been somewhat annotated with some, but not all of the following: questions, observations, and/or reflections of the content and possibly the writing. THERE IS SOME EXPLANATION on most notes.</td>
<td>Text is primarily underlined and/or highlighted with few/no annotations. THERE IS LITTLE EXPLANATION OR NO EXPLANATION on most notes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thorough, detailed annotations with questions, observations and reflections. Comments demonstrate analysis and interpretation—thinking beyond the surface level of the text. Comments are more than a couple of sentences.</td>
<td>Comments limited to paraphrases rather than analysis/interpretation. Some analysis or less thinking beyond the surface level of the text.</td>
<td>Few comments given to show connections. Explanations are only one sentence long.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completeness</td>
<td>At least 30 NUMBERED notes. Each note refers to only one part of the text.</td>
<td>At least 20 NUMBERED notes. Each note refers to only one part of the text.</td>
<td>10 or fewer NUMBERED notes. Each note refers to only one part of the text.</td>
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Insight _____/ 15 points    Completeness _____/ 15 points    Vocab _____/ 5 points    Total: _____/ 35 points