



English 10 Honors

Summer Reading/Writing Assignment

Your summer **reading assignment** is to carefully read and annotate “Marigolds” by Eugenia Collier and write your responses to all of the questions that follow. *For details about how to annotate a text, please see the attached resource on pages 2-3.

Your summer **writing assignment** is to write a 500 - 900 word narrative that is similar to “Marigolds” in one of the following ways:

- It is a ‘Coming of Age’ story, detailing an event that shows a transition from childhood to adulthood.
- It is a story that uses the literary element of *symbolism*, where something concrete is used to represent a larger concept or idea.
- It is a story that uses contrast (like the beauty of the marigolds in the dusty, barren yards).

You may write a *personal narrative* (written from the first person point of view) telling a story of one of your own experiences. Or, you may write a short fictional narrative.

- Create a “planning page” for the story using the graphic organizer included.
- Read through and edit your work, correcting any spelling or grammar errors and checking to make sure it *reads* the way you intended.
- Be sure to give your piece a title!
- This is NOT a formal writing assignment, so you can be creative with punctuation, capitalization, sentence structure- everything. But...when you break the rules it must be *intentional* and you must break the rules *with purpose*!

From [Lumen: Introduction to Literature](#)

How to Annotate a Text

Annotate (v): To supply critical or explanatory notes to a text.

Identifying and responding to the elements below will be beneficial to your close reading of the text. These annotations will develop your understanding of the material and help you develop material for the assignments (**Textual Annotations, Weekly Journals, and Major Essays**).

While Reading:

- Characters
- Setting (When and/or Where)
- Vocabulary
- Important ideas or information
- Write in the margins:
 - Formulate opinions
 - Make connections: Can you see any connections between this reading and another we have had?
 - Ask open-ended questions (How...? Why...?)
 - Write reflections / reactions / comments: Have a conversation with the text! Did you like something? Not like something?

I recommend using multiple colored highlighters for these elements. Characters: Green, Setting: Blue, Margin Notes: Yellow, etc.). And be as detailed as possible when making notes—You'd hate to go back to something later and not remember why you highlighted it!

After Reading:

- Summarize: Attempt to summarize the work in 2-3 sentences without looking at the material. I recommend limiting your summary to 2-3 sentences because any longer could risk turning into a “play-by-play” vs. an actual summary.
- Articulate the most important idea you feel the text is presenting. “The author wants us to know ____.” or “The moral of the story is ____.”

Complete these points in the margins at the end of the text or on the back of the last page.

Final Thought:

Annotating is as personal as reading, and there are MANY ways to annotate a work.

This system is just a suggestion. For example, some people prefer to use colored highlighters, while others may

prefer to use symbols (underlining key words, etc.). There’s no “right way” to annotate—if you already have a system, feel free to use what you are comfortable with. I am not going to hold you to a specific style, however whatever style you use should cover the major areas discussed above.

What is your story going to be about?

Circle one of the following ways that your story will be similar to the story "Marigolds":

- Coming of Age story
- Uses symbolism
- Uses contrast

How will you develop this idea throughout your story?

What sensory language can you use in describing the event or experience?

Smells, Sights, Sounds, Tastes, Feelings
****Also include thoughts and ideas***

What will be the backbone of your story:



Introduction:

Development #1:

Development #2:

Conclusion:

What details will you use to draw the reader in? What specifics will make this story more realistic for your reader? Share with your reader details like **what** was for dinner, or **how** you knew the teacher was distracted, or **who** was in your gym class, or **why** you didn't want to go into Stewart's with your dad.

