



Rising 12th Grade Summer Project

Ms. Orsini

Objectives:

- I will continue to sharpen my reading skills during the summer.
- I will practice annotating a text over the summer.
- I will continue to develop my knowledge of American literature by reading a text that has a message about the American Dream.
- I will determine a theme in a text and analyze its development.
- I will select strong and thorough evidence from the text to support my analysis of theme.

Project steps:

1. Students will select a novel from the options provided by Ms. Orsini. All of the options have messages about the American Dream.
2. I recommend that students read approximately twenty minutes daily, using a pencil/highlighter to annotate the text. Your annotations should be more than just highlighting or underlining, make a note about what you feel is significant or interesting about the characters, ideas, quotes or symbols.
3. As you read, look for details, plot events, quotes, or symbols that could relate to the author's message about America. Mark these with sticky notes; they will serve as evidence to support your interpretation of the theme.
 - As you start to uncover the author's message, you may need to revisit parts of the novel you have already read as some details may take on a new meaning.
4. Once you have finished the book, fill in the theme chart on the following page. Write a thematic statement; then, select your strongest pieces of evidence to support your thematic statement.
 - Remember, your thematic statement can't just say "The American Dream." You need to fully describe the author's message about the topic in 1-2 complete sentences.
5. Make sure you have internal citations for your evidence and a works cited at the end.

*Contact Ms. Orsini at korsini@tncs.org if you have questions or difficulties.

