

143 & 145 Senior English
Summer Reading Assignment
All Quiet on the Western Front
by Erich Maria Remarque

Due Monday, August 23

Active Reading Assignment: Margin Notes

All students are required to annotate (take margin notes) on the novel. Annotating will not only help you interact more closely with the text, but it will also allow you to remember the novel when we discuss it in August.

During the first week of school, I will be checking your annotations for points.

Your notes should include the following:

- 1. Chapter summaries:** On the last page of each chapter, write a 2-3 sentence summary of the main plot events for that chapter. Please write directly on the page or use Post-It notes.
- 2. Characters:** Highlight in **yellow** any descriptions or details that provide information about characters. Pay attention to the following:
 - Characters' physical appearance
 - Characters' actions
 - Characters' thoughts
 - What others say or think about each character(Center on these characters: Paul Baumer, Kattczinsky, Muller, Tjaden, Kropp, Leer, Westhaus, Detering, Kantorek, and Himmelstoss)
- 3. Important passages:** Highlight in **red** or **pink** any passages that strike you. Reasons for highlighting a passage could be that it shows conflict, reveals something about the setting, is an example of good writing, is funny, is thought-provoking, or is surprising. Please write your reason for highlighting these passages in the margins.
- 4. Theme notes:** Highlight in **blue** any passages related to the theme of "the horror of war." There are a variety of themes in this novel, but the central one we will focus on concerns killing other men just like the main character. You should look for any passages in which the main character shows us that war is terrible beyond anything we could imagine. Please write your reason for highlighting these passages in the margins.
- 5. Questions:** In the margins, write any questions you have as you read.