All 9th grade students will read *Animal Farm* by George Orwell.

Overview: *Animal Farm* is an allegorical novel in which the author uses animals to represent political figures. The book addresses the corruption that often goes along with power in political systems. Although the book was first published more than 70 years ago, its message is relevant today. An allegorical novel is one in which symbolic figures, actions, and/or imagery create meaning.

<u>Important information:</u>
Your summer reading assignments are due on the first day of class; you will have a test on this novel on the first full day of class.

Objectives:
A. Students will enhance reading skills by monitoring understanding through effective annotation.
B. Students will relate current knowledge and opinions of government systems and leaders to characters and situations in the novel.

1st Assignment: Students will read and annotate the novel.
*Annotation instructions are provided at the end of this document. Be consistent in the use of marks and symbols. Example: Circle unfamiliar words, underline or highlight important points, place a star by interesting passages, etc.

2nd Assignment: Provide details/important information for each character or event listed on the following page (#'s 1-20):
 ***Remember, *Animal Farm* is an allegory for the Russian Revolution. Be specific. Who/What do these represent in the Russian Revolution?

*You may use other resources to find this information as you see fit.

*It may be helpful to do this prior to reading the novel. **Note: *Your responses should be typed and a printed copy will be due on the first day of school. *One answer per line please**

Student Name
Teacher's Name
Course Name
Date (Day Month Year)

Example:
Mickey Mouse
Mrs. Anderson
English 9
13 August 2019

Example:
1.Old Major---Karl Marx represents …..
2. Jones---?
3. Animal Rebellion---?

1. Old Major	11. Battle of Windmill
2. Jones	12. Final Scene
3. Animal Rebellion	13. Animals other than pigs and dogs
4. Napoleon	14. Mollie the cart horse
5. Snowball	15. Chasing away Jones
6. Squealer	16. Animal Farm (Manor Farm)
7. Napoleon's Dogs	17. Selling the wood
8. Foxwood Farm (Pilkington)	18. Napoleon takes over the farm
9. Pinchfield Farm (Frederick)	19. Confessions and executions
10. Battle of Cowshed	20. Hoof and horn on the flag

3rd Assignment: Answer the following questions using complete sentences as you read the novel. *Turn each question into a statement/skip one line between each.

EXAMPLE:
1. Old Major believes _____ is the cause of the animals' problems.

2. The effect …….

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1. What does Old Major believe is the cause of the animals' problems?
2. What effect does Major's death have on the idea of rebelling against man?
3. What do the animals do first after chasing the humans from the farm?
4. What happens at the Battle of the Cowshed?
5. Where is Napoleon during the battle?
6. What changes does Napoleon make after Snowball is chased away?
7. Why does Napoleon blame Snowball for the destruction of the windmill?
8. Discuss the imagery and message of the song "Beasts of England."
9. What happens to Boxer?
10. Describe the changes in the pigs since the beginning.
11. What happens to the pigs' appearance at the end of the novel?

Note: *These questions and answers should be typed and a printed copy will be due on the first day of school. Note: You will also complete a writing assignment that pertains to this novel during the first week of school.*

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*How to Annotate a Book:

Writing in your book is a skill that helps you become a stronger reader. When you annotate, you create a dialogue with the text that indicates a deeper reading and at the same time, you create a study tool. Often, students are afraid to complete a summer reading assignment in June because they worry they will forget the story; however, good annotating serves as your memory.

To annotate effectively, keep it simple. The more colors you use, the more complicated taking notes becomes, and you want this process to be relatively easy so that you annotate everything you read, not just summer reading. You do not need to write pages of notes; rather, your words should be precise so that you can glance at a page or chapter and quickly recall what you have read.

NOTE: All annotations must be HANDWRITTEN in the book OR on post-it notes.
Recommended Tools:
1. **A contrasting ink pen is ideal because it is a different color than the black ink on the page. Blue works best, but other colors work as well (stay away from fluorescent inks--these are too hard to read).**
2. **Use your book jacket or the back few pages of a book. These are good places to make character lists, lists of major events or places, and/or vocabulary lists.**
3. **A paperback dictionary by your side as you are reading gives you a chance to look up a word you don't know the meaning of and jot it down quickly.**

Recommended Tips:
1. Try to make about 3-5 notes per chapter. Your teachers do not expect you to copy the book or have a note on every page.
2. Use the jacket covers for important information such as characters, setting, or vocabulary terms.
3. Use the margin of the pages to jot down important events in each chapter.
4. At the end of each chapter, briefly summarize (bullet points are okay) the material.
5. Circle unknown vocabulary words and define them.
6. Underline/highlight important quotes or passages, paying close attention to those that indicate a theme, conflict, symbol, or motifs. If you underline/highlight a passage, write down a few words to remind yourself later why you underlined the information. Underlining without words is almost pointless.

Annotating is an art form rather than a science. Eventually, you should develop your own system that works best for you. A book that is well-annotated is a great study tool and an invaluable resource on a test, especially an open book test (hint, hint).

SEE YOU IN AUGUST!!!!

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