**HONORS ENGLISH 11 SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS**

 ***Cry, the Beloved Country* by Alan Paton**

*Cry, the Beloved Country* is a monument to the future. One of South Africa's leading humanists, Alan Paton vividly captured his eloquent faith in the essential goodness of people." — Nelson Mandela

**Date Due: FIRST day of your class period in August**

**ASSIGNMENTS:**

1. **RESEARCH**

Complete **BASIC** research. “Basic research” means you have looked at more than one source (not Wikipedia or Spark Notes) and familiarized yourself with pertinent historic background information surrounding the novel. Cite your information using APA correctly. I recommend doing this prior to or as you begin reading to give you context and understanding surrounding the novel.

One page (typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. font) for each topic below is sufficient. Remember, writing research is not copying and pasting someone’s words. Be mindful to rephrase and use your own language.

* **Alan Paton**
* **Apartheid in South Africa in the early 20th century**
1. **READ**

Read ***Cry, the Beloved Country*** **by Alan Paton**. You may purchase the book, or you may check it out from your local library. Murray’s Barnes & Noble has been notified, and will be ordering in many copies.

1. **ANNOTATE OR DIALECTICAL JOURNAL**

**Annotations:** (on back) This is important and helps your process and analyze the text. Annotation is not just highlighting or underlining. While each page does not have to be littered with tons of writing, be sure to have adequate notes throughout.

**Dialectical Journal** accomplishes the same in depth thinking, but in the form of a journal. See below.

* 1. LEFT COLUMN- write down words you don’t know, repeated images or symbols, new characters, and any other rhetorical or literary elements.
	2. MIDDLE COLUMN- write significant quotes or sections of text with pg. #
	3. RIGHT COLUMN- write down WHY the quote to the left is significant, define words, explain literary elements, clarify character traits, etc.

The purpose of these journals is to mimic annotations if you don’t wish to write in your book or if you don’t have your own copy; you may also do this option if you are using a sibling’s book that has previous annotations. And some people just prefer this method.

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| Main ideas, themes, vocab, symbols, figurative language, etc. | Quotes / part of quotation with pg. # | Significance of the other two columns. |
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**The Art of Annotating Text**



**Annotate**: *verb* [-tating, -tated] to add critical or explanatory notes to a written work. Interaction with a text.

 Annotation leaves a **trail of your thinking** throughout the text. It helps to have a conversation with the text!

**Why annotate?** Serious readers take notes of some kind when they are carefully considering a text. Annotating a novel or text helps improve depth of thought as well as allows you to remember the text better. This does not have to be difficult but is personally and academically useful; a great study tool- making you work smarter, not harder. When you come back to the novel all the information is together and inseparable, with notes close to the text for easier understanding and fewer pieces to keep organized.

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| **Methods & Suggestions** |
| * Use your margins! Write in the margins if you own your book. **Sticky notes** are good and can also be easily removed if you do not own your book. Write on the sticky notes.
* Remember that some pages will be marked up more than others. Do not stress about over or under annotating, but be sure to show enough of a trail of thinking and insights. Focus on key information and do not over highlight or underline!
* Use keys or symbols that you understand what you mean. For example, **\* , [ ], ?, ☺,** etc.
* Be active (connections, questions, observations), not passive (does not involve much thought or comprehension).

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| **What to Look For** |
| * Figurative Language (similes, alliteration, metaphors, imagery, simile, hyperbole, etc.)
* Main Points, Messages, & Themes
* Personal Thoughts and Reactions
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