

Annotation #2 Assignment

Due Thursday May 1 (in class)

The second annotation assignment is different from the first in one crucial way: Your job is to annotate a text we've read together in the voice of a character from or author of another text we've read together.

As with the first assignment, you will choose and copy two pages from one (or two) the texts we've read this semester—either two consecutive pages from a prose text or two related poems. Annotate this two-page excerpt closely by making **legible** notes in the margins. (If they don't fit, you can use the back of the page or insert an additional page). You will also focus on the following details:

- The text's structure
- Any subtext, implicit meanings, or ambiguities
- Gestures toward defining what it means to be human—or the complexities of representing the human
- Literary elements like voice, metaphor, image, symbol
- Interesting patterns of language or form
- Signs of intertextuality, including quotations or allusions from other texts; references to other writers; conventions of a literary tradition; images or language shared with other texts; or anything that feels like an echo of another text
- Any detail that seems related to conversations we've had in class
- Details you find interesting, for whatever reason

In addition, write a two-page reflection on your annotations—again, in the voice of your chosen character or author. What does this character or author think of the text you're annotating? What details stand out? What might s/he say to the author of your chosen text, or say to others about that text or its author?

Advice

- Your chosen text or author might write as a fan, a critic, or some combination of these. Be inventive and see where your choices take you.
- Your reflection should reflect on the text you're annotating, but it should also imply or demonstrate some interesting aspects of the character or author you're pretending to be.
- Have some fun with this!