

1. Read and annotate¹ the novel *1984* by George Orwell. You will have a test on this during the first weeks of school.
2. Read *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom. Then write a personal response to this book. If you liked the book, explain why; if you didn't like the book, explain why. Use specific examples from the text to support your comments. Your response should be typed, double spaced, 12 point font, properly proofread, and approximately one-two pages in length. Do not go over two pages. This is a graded assignment worth 50 points.

¹To *annotate* a text means to take notes on the pages of a text while reading. It is a way of engaging with and entering into an author's art and ideas. The goal is to have a rich, satisfying, and thought-provoking reading experience.

To annotate wells means to *thoughtfully* and *frequently* do the following as you read:

- underline and/or star key sentences (thesis statements, important topic sentences of sections, etc.)
- circle and define any words that you do not know yet
- note transitions to help you map out the structure of the book's flow
- ask questions in the margins
- make comments about your own thoughts about / reactions to the text
- speculate on the book's theme as you go
- write bullet summary of what happened at end of each chapter.