Annotating *The Road*

We’ve reached the point in the year where you should now understand the difference between summary, commentary, and analysis. That means you’ve earned a little bit of latitude. For *The Road* you will be required to turn in annotations for every 60 pages of reading. What those annotations look like are entirely up to you. I’ve made a list of some possible methods of annotation, but I am trusting you to put SIGNIFICANT TIME AND EFFORT into your analysis without me mandating the format**. If your annotations do not meet my expectations** (which you should know well enough by now, it’s January) in terms of analysis or effort, **you will not receive credit for the assignment.** I highly recommend your annotations analyze the element of McCarthy’s style you selected to eventually write an essay about, but it is not mandatory.

**Some Possible Methods of Annotation:**

-Double Journal Entries: select short passages/sentences and write a short paragraph on the significance of each

-Reflections: paragraph-style reflections on your thoughts/analysis of the reading

-Close Reading a passage (in sentence or note-taking form)

-Oral Annotations: put extreme levels of thought into the significance of a passage (or passages) and meet with me WT or after school to explain your analysis in detail\*Must be completed by the day the assignment is due

-Post-it notes: annotate as you normally would in the margins, but on Post-its

-Epiphanies: does a passage blow your mind? How so/why? What is it about the syntax/diction of the passage that causes you to have such a reaction? You should actually blow my mind.

-Charting/tracing a motif: listing every occurrence of some element of the text and trying to figure out what it means in the text at large

-Diagrams or graphs: illustrate your understanding of some element(s) of the text

-Asking analytical questions (as long as you provide **in-depth** answers)

**-Your Annotations Must**:

-Quote specific language from the text

-Demonstrate considerable and original thought

-Be cohesive (you don’t need a full-on thesis, but I don’t want a rambling mess)

-SHOW SIGNIFICANT EFFORT (at least 2-3 times more than *Odyssey* annotations)

-Demonstrate understanding of the plot/themes of *The Road* as a whole