

## HONORS WORLD LITERATURE SUMMER 2011 ASSIGNMENTS

### **PART I**

Read Dr. Adler's essay, "How to Mark a Book" (attached as a PDF file to the main summer reading list). Formally, we call this "annotation," and it is not only recommended...it is **REQUIRED** for Part II of your summer assignment.

That being said, marking a book is certainly an activity that is personal and unique to you as an individual. It is important that you create a system that works well for you ~ consider the possibilities of highlighters, colored pens or pencils, and post-it notes as some of your options. Your personal book-marking system will develop over time. The following is an **ANNOTATION RUBRIC** which will guide you in your work (and upon which your annotation for the summer reading will be assessed):

5 The text is extensively highlighted or underlined with many margin notes in addition to shorthand notations. The annotations demonstrate that the student has carefully read and considered the text's meaning. The margin notes serve as an abbreviated outline of what the text says and what the reader thinks about it.

4 The text is extensively highlighted or underlined with fewer margin notes compared to the most carefully considered readings. Shorthand notations are present. The annotations which are there demonstrate that the student has carefully read and considered the text's meaning.

3 The text is less extensively highlighted or underlined with some margin notes and shorthand markings. The annotations demonstrate a less thorough reading of the work than the top two ratings.

2 The text is highlighted or underlined and the student uses shorthand markings. There are virtually no margin notes; consequently, it is impossible to determine how thorough the reading of the text has been.

1 Only shorthand margin notations are used or part of the text is unmarked or there are so few notations overall that the text may not have been read completely.

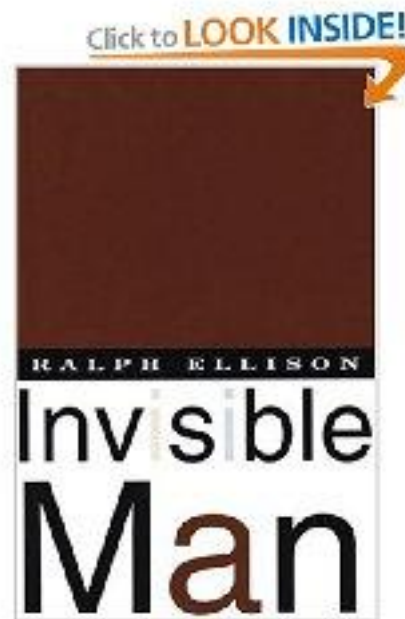
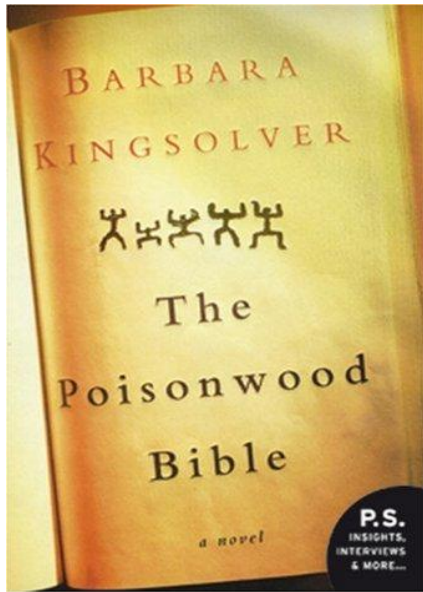
0 The text is unmarked.

## PART II

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT: *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver (ISBN: 978-0060786502) AND *Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison (ISBN: 978-0679732761)

*Poisonwood Bible* is currently available on amazon.com for \$11.66.

*Invisible Man* is currently available on amazon.com for \$10.17.



Please annotate the novels according to the assigned essay and rubric found above.

## Part III

In addition, please choose one of the prompts below and compose a 2-page typed response (in MLA format). This 2-page response as well as the annotation must be completed for the first day of classes:

(1) Cultural relativism is the idea that one acts the way they do, speaks the way they do, etc. as a direct result of their cultural values and beliefs. Moral relativism, similarly, argues that one's morals are dependent upon culture as opposed to universal codes. Do you believe this novel supports or questions cultural and moral relativism? Give specific textual evidence in support of your answer.

(2) According to *Invisible Man*, what, in your opinion, is the best indicator of power in society? Is it visibility? Physical force? The ability to hope? Or something else altogether? Give textual evidence in support of your answer.