All incoming 9th Grade English students are expected to read *That Was Then, This Is Now* by S.E. Hinton

**Summary:** Sixteen-year-old Mark and Bryon have been like brothers since childhood, but now, as their involvement with girls, gangs, and drugs increases, their relationship seems to gradually disintegrate.

**Assignment**

You will be required to read and annotate *That was Then, This is Now* by S.E. Hinton. Below are instructions/tips for annotating the book text and/or taking notes. When we return to school in September your annotations/notes will be checked, and you will be using these during book discussions and activities, so please make sure you do a thorough job.

**Annotating A Text**

Annotation is a key component of close reading. Since we will annotate/take notes all year, you need to develop a system that works for you (within the following guidelines). If you have your own copy, you can annotate right in the book. Otherwise use sticky notes or paper: handwritten is preferable.

Use any combination of the following:

- Make brief comments about the plot and development.
- Circle or put boxes, triangles, or clouds around words or phrases that stand out to you.
- Use abbreviations or symbols - brackets, stars, exclamation points, question marks, numbers, etc.
- Connect words, phrases, ideas, circles, boxes, etc. with lines or arrows.
- *Underline/highlight – jot thoughts down so you can recall why you highlighted an excerpt.*

Directions Continue on Next Page
Close Reading:

What should you annotate? Again, the possibilities are limitless. Keep in mind the reasons we annotate. Your annotations must include comments. We want to see evidence of thinking.

❖ Have a conversation with the text - Talk back to it. Ask questions (essential to active reading).
❖ Comment on the actions or development of a character. Does the character change? Why? How? the result?
❖ Comment on something that intrigues, impresses, amuses, shocks, puzzles, disturbs, repulses, aggravates, etc.
❖ Comment on lines / quotations you think are especially significant, powerful, or meaningful.
❖ Express agreement or disagreement.
❖ Make predictions.
❖ Connect ideas to each other or to other texts.
❖ Note anything you would like to discuss or do not understand like vocabulary words.
❖ Note how the author uses language. What is significant?

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<tr>
<th>Effects of word choice (diction) or sentence structure or type (syntax)</th>
<th>Setting / Historical context – When does the book take place? How does it affect the story?</th>
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<td>Point of view / effect</td>
<td>Tone—how characters express themselves</td>
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<td>References (historical, pop-culture)</td>
<td>Imagery – how does the author evoke the 5 senses (touch, sight, sound, smell, taste)</td>
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<td>Irony – contrasts, contradictions</td>
<td>Themes – what lessons or ideas are expressed?</td>
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<td>Mood—how author makes reader feel</td>
<td>Foreshadowing – make predictions as you read</td>
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The most common complaint about annotating is that it slows down your reading. Yes, it does! That’s the point. If annotating as you read is challenging for you, read a chapter and then go back and annotate. Reading a text a second time is preferable anyway.

***Bring all of your annotated texts to class the first day.***

Approach the book with an open mind. Let the text inspire you and stretch your imagination. If you have questions before school starts, feel free to e-mail your teacher then as well. We look forward to seeing you in September! ☺

If you’re looking for some other good books to read this summer, check out the list below!
Here is a list of suggested books for incoming 9th & 10th grade students. None of these books are required – they’re just great books to read and enjoy!

Acevedo, Elizabeth

*Clap When You Land*: Camino Rios lives for the summers when her father visits her in the Dominican Republic. But this time, on the day when his plane is supposed to land, Camino arrives at the airport to see crowds of crying people. In New York City, Yahaira Rios is called to the principal's office, where her mother is waiting to tell her that her father, her hero, has died in a plane crash. Separated by distance--and Papi's secrets--the two girls are forced to face a new reality in which their father is dead and their lives are forever altered. And then, when it seems like they've lost everything of their father, they learn of each other.

Adams, Douglas

*The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy*: Seconds before Earth is destroyed to make room for a galactic freeway, a young man is rescued by an alien friend who whisks him away on a space-traveling adventure. Sequels: *Restaurant at the End of the Universe, Life, The Universe and Everything, So Long and Thanks for All the Fish and Mostly Harmless*

Adeyemi, Tomi

*Children of Anguish and Anarchy*: Seventeen-year-old Zelie, her older brother Tzain, and rogue Princess Amari fight to restore magic to the land and activate a new generation of magi, but they are ruthlessly pursued by the Crown Prince Inan, who believes the return of magic will mean the end of the monarchy. *Children of Orisha, book 3*

Ahmed, Samira

*Internment*: A terrifying, futuristic United States where Muslim-Americans are forced into internment camps, and seventeen-year-old Layla Amin must lead a revolution against complicit silence.

Albergotti, Reed & O’Connell, Vanessa


Austen, Jane

*Pride and Prejudice*: Jane Austen called this brilliant work “her own darling child” and its vivacious heroine, Elizabeth Bennet, “as delightful a creature as ever appeared in print.” The romantic clash between the opinionated Elizabeth and her proud beau, Mr. Darcy, is a splendid performance of civilized sparring. And Austen's radiant wit sparkles as her characters dance a delicate quadrille of flirtation and intrigue, making this book the most superb comedy of manners of Regency England.

Bell, David

*She's Gone*: Accused of murdering his girlfriend, who disappeared after they were in an accident, Hunter Gifford races against time to clear his name, putting
his freedom, family and life at risk, as his former best friend makes a true-crime documentary condemning him.

Bradbury, Ray

Fahrenheit 451: Guy Montag is a fireman. His job is to destroy the most illegal of commodities, the printed book, along with the houses in which they are hidden. Montag never questions the destruction and ruin his actions produce, returning each day to his bland life and wife, Mildred, who spends all day with her television "family." But when he meets an eccentric young neighbor, Clarisse, who introduces him to a past where people didn't live in fear and to a present where one sees the world through the ideas in books instead of the mindless chatter of television, Montag begins to question everything he has ever known.

Brown, Don

In the Shadow of the Fallen Towers: The Seconds, Minutes, Hours, Days, Weeks, Months, and Years After the 9/11 Attacks: A graphic novel chronicling the immediate aftermath and rippling effects of one of the most impactful days in modern history: September 11, 2001. The consequences of the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center in New York City, both political and personal, were vast, and continue to reverberate today. Profound, troubling, and deeply moving, this book bears witness to our history & and the ways it shapes our future.

Buck, Pearl S.

The Good Earth: The poignant tale of a Chinese farmer and his family in old agrarian China. The humble Wang Lung glories in the soil he works, nurturing the land as it nurtures him and his family. Hard times come upon Wang Lung and his family when flood and drought force them to seek work in the city. The working people riot, breaking into the homes of the rich and forcing them to flee. When Wang Lung shows mercy to one noble and is rewarded, he begins to rise in the world.

Burcaw, Shane

Laughing at My Nightmare: With acerbic wit and a hilarious voice, Shane Burcaw describes the challenges he faces as a twenty-one-year-old with spinal muscular atrophy. From awkward handshakes to having a girlfriend and everything in between, Shane handles his situation with humor and a "you-only-live-once" perspective on life. While he does talk about everyday issues that are relatable to teens, he also offers an eye-opening perspective on what it is like to have a life-threatening disease.

Butler, Caron

Shot Clock: Tony loves basketball. But the game changed when his best friend, Dante, a hoops phenom, was killed by a police officer. Tony hopes he can carry on Dante's legacy by making the Sabres, Dante’s AAU basketball team. Tony doesn't make the team, but Coach James likes what he sees at tryouts and offers him another chance: join the team as the statistician. With his community reeling and the team just finding its footing on the court, can Tony find a path to healing while helping to bring the Sabres a championship?

Calame, Dan

Dan vs. Nature: Shy and scrawny Dan Weekes spends his time creating graphic novels inspired by his dream girl and looking out for his mom as she dates every man in the state of California. Then his mom drops a bomb: she and Hank, are engaged, and she's sending her "two favorite men" on a survivalist camping trip to "bond." Determined to trick Hank into showing his true — flawed — colors on
the trip, Dan and his nerdy germaphobe best friend, Charlie, prepare a series of increasingly gross and embarrassing pranks.

Caletti, Deb  
*A Heart in a Body in the World*: When everything’s been taken from you, what else is there to do but run? That’s what Annabelle does-- from Seattle to Washington, DC. She's not ready to think about the why, just the *how*--muscles burning, heart pumping, feet pounding the earth. But no matter how hard she tries, she can't outrun the tragedy from the past year, or the person--*The Taker*--that haunts her. Followed by Grandpa Ed in his RV and backed by her brother and friends, Annabelle becomes a reluctant activist as people connect her journey to the trauma from her past. *Printz Honor Book, 2019*

Chee, Traci  
*We Are Not Free*: For fourteen-year-old budding artist Minoru Ito, his two brothers, his friends, and the other members of the Japanese-American community in southern California, the three months since Pearl Harbor was attacked have become a waking nightmare: attacked, spat on, and abused with no way to retaliate--and now things are about to get worse, their lives forever changed by the mass incarcerations in the relocation camps.

Cherrix, Amy E.  
*In the Shadow of the Moon: America, Russia, and the Hidden History of the Space Race*: You've heard of the space race, but do you know the whole story? The most ambitious race humankind has ever undertaken was masterminded in the shadows by two engineers on opposite sides of the Cold War--Wernher von Braun, a former Nazi officer living in the US, and Sergei Korolev, a Russian rocket designer once jailed for crimes against his country--and your textbooks probably never told you.

Crane, Stephen  
*The Red Badge of Courage*: During his service in the Civil War, a young Union soldier matures to manhood and finds peace of mind as he comes to grips with his conflicting emotions about war.

Deen, Nathasha  
*In the Key of Nira Ghani*: Nira Ghani has always dreamed of becoming a musician. Her Guyanese parents, however, have big plans for her to become a scientist or doctor. Nira's grandmother and her best friend, Emily, are the only people who seem to truly understand her desire to establish an identity outside of the one imposed on Nira by her parents. When auditions for jazz band are announced, Nira realizes it's now or never to convince her parents that she deserves a chance to pursue her passion.

Deuker, Carl  
*Golden Arm*: Lazarus Weathers has always been shy, and his issue with stuttering hasn’t helped. Laz finds baseball helps him escape from the world of poverty and drugs. When he gets a chance to pitch for a team across town, he has a chance to get drafted by the major leagues. But playing for the other team means leaving behind his family, including his younger brother. Now Laz will have to choose between being the star pitcher he always dreamed of becoming and the team player his family needs.

Elston, Ashley  
*This is Our Story*: No one knows what happened that morning at River Point. Five boys went hunting. Four came back. The boys won't say who fired the shot that killed their friend, Grant; the evidence shows it could have been any one of
them. Kate, an intern at the DA’s office and the Assistant DA must solve the crime to get justice for Grant.

Florio, John

*Doomed: Sacco, Vanzetti, and the End of the American Dream*: The story of how in the early 1920s, as a Red Scare gripped America, two Italian immigrants, Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti, were wrongly accused, tried, and executed for murder, making front-page headlines as they maintained their innocence to the very end.

Gaddy, K.R.

*Flowers in the Gutter: The True Story of the Edelweiss Pirates, Teenagers who Resisted the Nazis*: The Edelweiss Pirates were a loosely organized group of working-class young people in the Rhine Valley of Germany. They faced off with Nazis during the Third Reich and suffered consequences for their resistance during and after World War II.

Greenfield, Amy

*The Woman All Spies Fear: Code Breaker Elizebeth Smith Freedman and Her Hidden Life*: An inspiring true story. Elizebeth Smith Friedman had a talent for spotting patterns and solving puzzles. These skills led her to become one of the top cryptanalysts in America playing a major role decoding messages during both World War I and World War II and also for the Coast Guard's war against smugglers. Elizebeth and her husband, William, became the top code-breaking team in the US, and she did it all at a time when most women weren't welcome in the workforce.

Grogan, John

*Marley & Me: Life and Love with the World's Worst Dog*: A tender story of his family's love for their yellow Labrador retriever, Marley, chronicling how he grew from a mischievous puppy into a nearly impossible adult that no amount of obedience school training could correct.

Hemingway, Ernest

*The Old Man and the Sea*: The story of an old Cuban fisherman and his supreme ordeal: a relentless, agonizing battle with a giant marlin far out in the Gulf Stream. Using the simple, powerful language of a fable, Hemingway takes the timeless themes of courage in the face of defeat and personal triumph won from loss and transforms them into a magnificent twentieth-century classic.

King, Stephen

*The Shining*: Jack Torrance's new job at the Overlook Hotel is the perfect chance for a fresh start. As the off-season caretaker at the old hotel, he'll have plenty of time to spend reconnecting with his family and working on his writing. But as the harsh winter weather sets in, the idyllic location feels ever more remote . . . and more sinister. And the only one to notice the strange and terrible forces gathering around the Overlook is Danny Torrance, Jack’s uniquely gifted five-year-old.

Konigsberg, Bill

*Openly Straight*: Tired of being known as "the gay kid", Rafe Goldberg decides to assume a new persona when he comes east and enters an elite Massachusetts prep school--but trying to deny his identity has both complications and unexpected consequences.

Krosoczka, Jarrett

*Hey, Kiddo*: In his graphic novel style memoir, Jarrett Krosoczka describes how in kindergarten his teacher asks him to draw his family, with a mommy and a
daddy. But Jarrett's family is much more complicated than that. His mom is an addict, in and out of rehab, and Jarrett's life. His father is a mystery. Jarrett lives with his loud, opinionated, but loving grandparents. Only as a teenager can Jarrett begin to piece together the truth of his family, reckoning with his mother and tracking down his father.

Jack, Gordon  
**The Boomerang Effect:** Because of a string of pranks, Lawrence Barry is one step away from reform school unless he agrees to mentor a Norwegian exchange student with Spock-like intelligence but no social skills. During Homecoming week, someone dressed as the school's Viking mascot starts destroying the homecoming floats, and Lawrence becomes suspect #1. As the situation spirals out of control, he realizes that Spencer may be his best friend -- the one he never knew he needed.

Johnson, Lea  
**You Should See Me in a Crown:** Liz Lighty has always done her best to avoid the spotlight in her small, prom-obsessed midwestern high school, especially since her mother died; she has concentrated on her grades and musical ability hoping it will win her a scholarship to elite Pennington College. But when that scholarship falls through she is forced to turn to her school's scholarship for prom king and queen, which plunges her into the gauntlet of social media and leads her to discoveries about her own identity and the value of true friendships.

Larbalestier, Justine  
**My Sister Rosa:** When his father's business takes the family to New York City, a seventeen-year-old Australian boy must balance his desire to protect his ten-year-old sister, a diagnosable psychopath, from the world with the desperate need to protect the world from her.

Levithan, David  
**Every Day:** Every morning, A wakes in a different person's body, in a different person's life, learning over the years to never get too attached, until he wakes up in the body of Justin and falls in love with Justin's girlfriend, Rhiannon. **Sequel:** *Another Day, Some Day*

Levitt, Stephen D.  
**Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything:** The authors explore the economics of real-world issues often viewed as insignificant, such as the extent to which the Roe v. Wade decision affected violent crime, and examine hidden incentives behind all sorts of human behavior.

Le Guin, Ursula  
**A Wizard of Earthsea:** Ged was the greatest sorcerer in Earthsea, but in his youth he was the reckless Sparrowhawk. In his hunger for power and knowledge, he tampered with long-held secrets and loosed a terrible shadow upon the world. This is the tumultuous tale of his testing, how he mastered the mighty words of power, tamed an ancient dragon, and crossed death's threshold to restore the balance.

Marquis, Krystal  
**The Davenports:** The Davenports are one of the few Black families of great wealth and status in a changing United States, their fortune made through by William Davenport, a formerly enslaved man who founded the Davenport Carriage Company years ago. Now in 1910, the Davenports live surrounded by servants and endless parties, finding their way & finding love--even where they're not supposed to. Inspired by the real-life story of the Patterson family, *The*
Davenports is the tale of four young Black women discovering the courage to steer their own path in life & love.

Masters, Oksana

The Hard Parts: A Memoir of Courage and Triumph: The United States' most decorated winter Paralympic or Olympic athlete tells how she overcame Chernobyl disaster-caused physical challenges, through sheer determination and a drive to succeed, to win the world's best in elite rowing, biathlon, cross-country skiing, and road cycling competitions.

McManus, Karen

You'll Be the Death of Me: Ivy, Mateo, and Cal used to be close. Now all they have in common is Carlton High and the beginning of a very bad day. When the three unexpectedly run into each other, they decide to avoid their problems by ditching school together. They've barely left the parking lot before they run out of things to say... until they spot a classmate skipping school--and follow him to the scene of his own murder. Their day goes from bad to deadly. Could it be that their chance reconnection wasn't by chance after all?

Morton, Kate

The Lake House: 16-year-old Alice Edevane's brother Theo disappears one night during a party with hundreds of guests at her family's English estate. Years later, Alice still harbors a suspicion as to how her brother disappeared. Meanwhile, London detective Sadie Sparrow stumbles upon the old Edevane estate, now abandoned. With her curiosity sparked, a chain of events brings her and Alice together and reveals the shocking truth behind the mystery.

Murphy, Julie

Puddin': Companion to book & Netflix movie Dumplin': Millie Michalchuk has gone to fat camp every year since she was a little girl. Not this year. She has plans to chase her secret dream of being a newscaster--and to kiss the boy she's crushing on. Callie Reyes is the pretty girl who is next in line for dance team captain and has the popular boyfriend. But when it comes to other girls, she's more frenemy than friend. When the girls come together over the course of a semester, they surprise everyone by realizing that they might have more in common than they imagined.

O'Connor, Ian

Coach K: The Rise and Reign of Mike Krzyzewski: A biography of well-known college basketball coach, Mike Krzyzewski, covering his early years in Chicago and West Point, his rise to coaching stardom, specific games, interviews, and more.

Poe, Edgar Allan

The Collected Tales of Edgar Allan Poe: Edgar Allan Poe was one of the most original writers in the history of American letters, a genius who was tragically misunderstood in his lifetime. This edition includes his most well-known works--"The Raven," "The Pit and the Pendulum," "Annabel Lee," "The Fall of the House of Usher," "The Murders in the Rue Morgue"--as well as less-familiar stories, poems, and essays.

Redgate, Riley

Alone Out Here: The year is 2072. Soon a volcanic eruption will trigger catastrophic devastation, and the only way out is up. While the world's leaders, scientists, and engineers oversee the frantic production of a space fleet meant to save humankind, their children are brought in for a weekend of touring the Lazarus, a high-tech prototype spaceship. But when the apocalypse arrives
months ahead of schedule, First Daughter Leigh Chen and a handful of teens from the

tour are the only ones to escape the planet. But as isolation presses in, their

euneasy peace begins to fracture.

Reynolds, Jason  

*When I was the Greatest*: Ali lives in Bed-Stuy, a Brooklyn neighborhood known

for guns and drugs, but he and his sister, Jazz, and their neighbors, Needles and

Noodles, stay out of trouble until they go to the wrong party, where one gets

badly hurt and another leaves with a target on his back.

Rowell, Rainbow  

*Eleanor and Park*: Set over the course of one school year in 1986, this is the

story of two star-crossed misfits—smart enough to know that first love almost

never lasts, but brave and desperate enough to try. When Eleanor meets Park,

you'll remember your own first love—and just how hard it pulled you under.

*Printz Honor Book, 2014*

Sepetys, Ruta  

*Fountains of Silence*: Madrid, 1957. Under the fascist dictatorship of General

Francisco Franco, Spain is hiding a dark secret. Meanwhile, tourists and foreign

businessmen flood into Spain under the welcoming promise of sunshine and wine.

Among them Daniel Matheson who is hoping to connect with the country through

the lens of his camera. Photography--and fate--introduce him to Ana, whose

family is still suffering from the lingering effects of the Spanish Civil War.

Daniel's photographs leave him with uncomfortable questions amidst shadows of

danger.

Searle, Sarah Winifred  

*The Greatest Thing*: It's the first day of sophomore year and Winifred's two best

(and only) friends have transferred to a private school & she must navigate high

school on her own. In art class, she meets two offbeat students, Oscar and April.

The three bond through clandestine sleepovers, thrift store shopping, and zine

publishing. Winifred is finally breaking out of her shell, but there's one secret she

can't bear to admit to April and Oscar, or even to herself—and this lie is

threatening to destroy her newfound friendships. *Graphic Novel*

Shusterman, Neal  

*Dry*: The drought--or the Tap-Out, as everyone calls it--has been going on for a

while now. Everyone's lives have become an endless list of don'ts: don't water the

lawn, don't fill your pool, don't take long showers. Until the taps run dry.

Suddenly, Alyssa's quiet suburban street spirals into a warzone of desperation;

neighbors turned against each other on the hunt for water. When her parents don't

return and her life and her brother's is threatened, Alyssa has to make impossible

choices if she's going to survive.

Sortino, Anna  

*Give Me A Sign*: Lilah is stuck in the middle. She doesn’t feel “deaf enough” to

identify as Deaf or hearing enough to meet the world’s expectations. When Lilah

becomes a counselor at a summer camp for the deaf and blind, her plan is to brush

up on her ASL. She also finds a community, including Isaac, the dreamy Deaf

counselor. Romance wasn’t on the agenda, but all signs seem to point to love.

Lilah wanted change, and things are certainly different than what she’s used to.

Stevenson, Bryan  

*Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*: Bryan Stevenson was a young

lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to

defending those most desperate and in need: the poor, the wrongly condemned,
and women and children trapped in the farthest reaches of our criminal justice system. One of his first cases was that of Walter McMillian, a young man who was sentenced to die for a notorious murder he insisted he didn't commit. The case drew Bryan into a tangle of conspiracy, political machination, and legal brinksmanship—and transformed his understanding of mercy and justice forever.

Thomas, Angie  
*On the Come Up*: Sixteen-year-old Bri hopes to become a great rapper, and after her first song goes viral for all the wrong reasons, must decide whether to sell out or face eviction with her widowed mother.

Vermette, Katherena  
*A Girl Called Echo Vol. 1*: Echo Desjardins, a 13-year-old Metis girl adjusting to a new home and school, is struggling with loneliness while separated from her mother. Then an ordinary day in Mr. Bee's history class turns extraordinary. During Mr. Bee's lecture, Echo finds herself transported to another time and place—a bison hunt on the Saskatchewan prairie—and back again to the present. In the following weeks, Echo slips back and forth in time. She visits a Metis camp, travels the old fur-trade routes, and experiences the perilous and bygone era of the Pemmican Wars. *Graphic novel*

Volponi, Paul  
*The Final Four*: Four players at the Final Four of the NCAA basketball tournament struggle with the pressures of tournament play and the expectations of society at large.

Whitman, Walt  
*Leaves of Grass*: Abraham Lincoln read it with approval, but Emily Dickinson described its bold language and themes as "disgraceful." *Leaves of Grass* inaugurated a new voice and style into American letters and gave expression to an optimistic, bombastic vision that took the nation as its subject.

Yang, Gene Luen  
*Dragon Hoops*: Gene Luen Yang understands stories—comic book stories, in particular. And the hero always wins. But Gene doesn't get sports. But at the high school where he now teaches, it's all anyone can talk about. The men's varsity team, the Dragons, is having a phenomenal season and each victory brings them closer to their ultimate goal: the California State Championship. Once Gene meets these young all-stars, he realizes that their story is just as thrilling as anything he's seen on a comic book page. *Printz Honor, 2021*

Yoon, Nicola  
*Everything, Everything*: The story of a teenage girl who's literally allergic to the outside world. When a new family moves in next door, she begins a complicated romance that challenges everything she's ever known. The narrative unfolds via vignettes, diary entries, texts, charts, lists, illustrations, and more.

Zoboi, Ibi  
*America Street*: Fabiola Toussaint, a young Haitian immigrant to the United States, must navigate her life, school and relationships, while dealing with her loud cousins after her mother is detained by the United States immigration department.

Zusak, Markus  
*The Book Thief*: Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel—a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.