

# 9th Grade Literature & Composition Summer Reading Assignment

Welcome to 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Literature & Composition! As a student in this course, you will engage in the careful reading and analysis of short stories, novels, plays, poems, and nonfiction. In order to begin the 2016-2017 school year on a positive note, **closely read Nancy Farmer's *The House of the Scorpion*** and complete the following assignment. Be prepared to discuss and write about the novel during the first few weeks of school.

If you have questions contact:

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## THE HOUSE OF THE SCORPION– ANNOTATION PROJECT

The novel contains 38 chapters. Using the following coding system, please be sure to have **AT LEAST 5 Type 1 annotations per chapter, AT LEAST 5 Type 2 annotations per chapter, and AT LEAST 5 Type 3 annotations per chapter.**

**ANNOTATION TYPE 1: Color Code, Definition, and example of the literary device.**

- **PINK = SYMBOL** – It is something which is itself but also represents something else. It tends to be more singular, more fixed than imagery. The flag is a symbol of our country; the dove is a symbol of peace.
- **YELLOW = CHARACTERIZATION** – The author's expression of a character's personality through the use of action, dialogue, thought, or commentary by the author or another character.
- **GREEN = THEME** – A theme is the central message of insight into life revealed by a literary work. An essay's theme is often directly stated in the thesis. In fiction, the theme is stated indirectly.
- **ORANGE = ALLUSIONS** – Allusions are references to someone or something that is well-known from history, religion, or literature.
- **BLUE = IMAGERY** – Imagery is language that evokes a mental picture or physical sensation through the use of vivid details that appeal to sight, touch, smell, taste, and hearing.
- **Purple= Elements of *Dystopia*** – This novel is a dystopia. Please identify elements of the novel that create the dystopia. Focus on the use/misuse of science, technology, government, drugs, etc.

**1. ANNOTATION TYPE 2: Unfamiliar Words** – **CIRCLE** unfamiliar vocabulary words and write the definition in the margin.

**2. ANNOTATION TYPE 3: Interactive Text Markings** – Use these symbols

? = Confusing passages or lines

! = Wow! Something exciting, creative, or revealing

☺ = An idea, event, or statement you agree with or think is particularly well-written.

☹ = An idea, event, or statement you disagree with