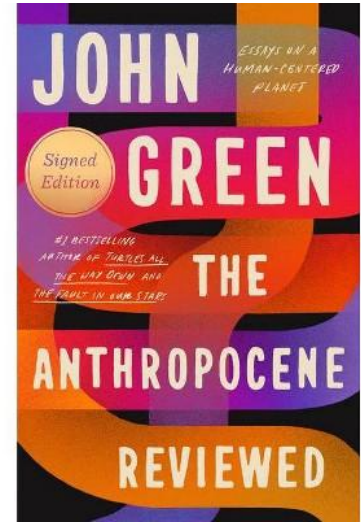


Welcome to Honors English II!

Your summer reading assignment is to read and annotate 20 chapters of the book, *The Anthropocene Reviewed: Essays on a Human-Centered Planet*, by John Green, author of *The Fault in Our Stars*, *Turtles All the Way Down*, and *Looking for Alaska*. The audiobook is available from Audible and is read by the author, and this method of reading the book is acceptable. However, because you are required to annotate the book for a grade, you will also need to purchase a copy.



“The Anthropocene is the current geologic age, in which humans have profoundly reshaped the planet and its biodiversity. In this remarkable symphony of essays adapted and expanded from his groundbreaking podcast, bestselling author John Green reviews different facets of the human-centered planet on a five-star scale—from the QWERTY keyboard and sunsets to Canada geese and Penguins of Madagascar. Funny, complex, and rich with detail, the reviews chart the contradictions of contemporary humanity. As a species, we are both far too powerful and not nearly powerful enough, a paradox that came into sharp focus as we faced a global pandemic that both separated us and bound us together. John Green’s gift for storytelling shines throughout this masterful collection. The Anthropocene Reviewed is an open-hearted exploration of the paths we forge and an unironic celebration of falling in love with the world. ~ Amazon Books

On the first day of school, we expect you to turn in your book with annotations that follow these directions. You will get your book back after we grade it.

First: Write your name legibly on the inside cover of your book. Follow these directions exactly for full credit.

Annotation Directions:

Begin with a dark ink pen that will not bleed through your pages. As you read, make comments on the pages. It is acceptable to circle, underline, draw arrows, or use whatever symbols or tags you wish. Additionally, you need to write thoughtful commentary in the text. Only underlining will not earn points.

We will not count your annotations per page, but you should write **at least two** comments per page. Instead, we will read them and look at the quality of your

annotations. We expect to see your thoughtful interaction with the text on each page of your chosen chapters.

Here are the types of things you may choose to write about.

1. Summarize a section or paragraph.
2. Make predictions of what you think might be coming.
3. Formulate opinions (agree or disagree with the author).
4. Make connections to anything: other texts, dates, opinions, people, etc.
5. Make an inference and underline the supporting details.
6. Explain how the title connects to parts of the text.
7. Mark areas of confusion by writing an “I wonder...” question.
8. Clarify what the author really means when using figurative language. Tell what is being compared.
9. Circle an unfamiliar word, write the definition in the margin.
10. Identify and analyze the author's
 - a. Point of view (narrator's perspective)
 - b. Tone (attitude toward subject)
 - c. Diction (style of speaking and word choice)
 - d. Syntax (sentences and their patterns)
11. Make observations about the structure of the text. How is it arranged?
 - a. Cause/Effect
 - b. Chronologically
 - c. Problem/Solution
 - d. Compare/Contrast
 - e. Steps to a process/Sequence
12. Explain what you believe the author's purpose is in this section. What does he want to achieve by writing this chapter?

These are only suggestions, but they should provide you some tools as you strive to show your thinking.

Here is an example from “Diet Dr. Pepper.” The reader points out a simile with remarks on what the comparison means, the structure of a paragraph with a counterargument and refutation, and the writer's use of exaggeration.

like the soda fountain in Waco smelled—all those artificial flavors swirling together in the air. Dr Pepper is, in its very conception, unnatural. The creation of a chemist.

The first zero-calorie version of Dr Pepper was released in 1962. This initial "Dietetic Dr Pepper" was a failure, but Diet Dr Pepper became a huge success when it was reformulated in 1991 with a new artificial sweetener, aspartame. It also relaunched with a new advertising slogan.

Diet Dr Pepper: It tastes more like regular Dr Pepper. Which it really does.
Coke and Diet Coke are barely recognizable as relatives. *Relatives* If Coke is a *metaphor* golden eagle, Diet Coke is a hummingbird. But Dr Pepper and Diet Dr Pepper taste like each other, which is especially interesting since, as Foots *it shows how strong,* Clements pointed out, neither of them tastes like anything else. *bold, and robust*

A counterargument
Now, many people find the artificiality of Diet Dr Pepper revolting. *ing. You often hear people say, "There are so many chemicals in it." Of is compound*
Here, a reputation: saying, so?
course, there are also lots of chemicals in wine, or coffee, or air. The *to the*
it's no worse than anything else underlying concern, though, is a sensible one: Diet Dr Pepper is just *light,* so profoundly artificial. But that's why I love it. Diet Dr Pepper allows *barely there* me to enjoy a relatively safe taste that was engineered for me. When I *flavor of Diet Coke.* drink it, I think of the kids at that soda fountain in Waco, Texas, most of whom rarely knew the pleasures of an ice-cold drink of any kind, and how totally enjoyable those first Dr Peppers must've been.

Each time I drink Diet Dr Pepper, I am newly astonished. *Look* *It's making a big deal of a soda like it's sending a man to the moon.*
at what humans can do! They can make ice-cold, sugary-sweet, zero-calorie soda that tastes like everything and also like nothing. I don't labor under the delusion that Diet Dr Pepper is good for me, but, in moderation, it also probably isn't bad for me. Drinking too much Diet Dr Pepper can be bad for your teeth and may increase other health risks. But as Dr. Aaron Carroll puts it in his book *The Bad Food Bible*, "There's a potential—and, likely, very real—harm from consuming added sugar. There is likely none from artificial sweeteners."

Introduction: You must read and annotate this section of the book to better understand the context and purpose of the book. This does not count as one of your chapters.

Select 20 of these chapters to read and annotate:


"You'll Never Walk Alone"
"Humanity's Temporal Range"
"Halley's Comet"
"Our Capacity for Wonder"
"Lascaux Cave Paintings"
"Scratch 'n' Sniff Stickers"

"Canada Geese"
"Teddy Bears"
"The Hall of Presidents"
"Air Conditioning"
"Staphylococcus aureus"
"Academic Decathlon"

“Sunsets”
“Jerzy Dudek’s Performance”
“Penguins of Madagascar”
“Piggly Wiggly”
“The Nathan’s Famous Hot Dog Eating Contest”
“CNN”
“Harvey”
“Auld Lang Syne”
“Googling Strangers”
“Indianapolis”
“The Indianapolis 500”
“Mortification”

“Monopoly”
“Bonneville Salt Flats”
“Viral Meningitis”
“Plague”
“Wintery Mix”
“The Hot Dogs of Baejarins Beztu Pylsur”
“The Notes App”
“The QWERTY Keyboard”
“The World’s Largest Ball of Paint”
“Sycamore Trees”
“Three Farmers on Their Way to a Dance”
“The Kaua’i ‘O’O”
“The Smallpox Vaccine”

Before you turn in your book, number your 20 chapters on the Table of Contents.

Visual Project: Select **one** additional chapter to represent in a visual form. It cannot be one of the twenty you annotated. Project suggestions include making a poster, a painting, a collage, a drawing, a cartoon, a mobile, or a diorama. It needs to be  and not just a pencil sketch or a computer-generated image. All drawn and written aspects must be done by hand, not printed from a printer.

Points:

Chapter annotations: 100 points

Visual project: 20 points

You should expect to complete a writing assignment modeling Green’s style on the first day of school.

If you have questions over this assignment, feel free to contact us at jgilman@bixbyps.org and bschofield@bixbyps.org.

We look forward to meeting you and beginning our year together.

Mrs. Gilman and Mrs. Schofield