

Rising 12th Summer Work

At the beginning of this semester, we will work on college applications including college essays and resumes. While many of you are well aware of the reason *you* may like to further your education, it's important to consider the value of education in general, especially as you find yourself sitting in some of your entry-level and elective courses wondering "why in the world do I have to be here right now if I will never use these skills in my life?" We'll start by reading *Ecology of a Cracker Childhood* by Janisse Ray. You should both read *and* annotate. Here's what I mean by annotate (for memoirs):

- Write down thoughts in the margins of the book as you have them. Example:
"wow, that's weird" or "I'm not following her logic here" or "this reminds me of _____"
- circle and define words you don't know (or that you could not define well if someone asked you to)
- Underline passages that make you feel emotions. Tell me the emotion you're experiencing and why (in incomplete sentences/a few words)
- Bracket important dialogue that matters for the story
- Boxing or highlighting key themes in the book and keeping track of them in the margins

Your annotations will be **due at the beginning of the second day of class.**

I look forward to working with you all and I hope you enjoy the memoir over the summer! Please email me if you have any questions!

Blessings,
Dr. Tindall

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