

“Reading is the sole means by which we slip, involuntarily, often helplessly, into another’s skin, another’s voice, another’s soul.” – Joyce Carol Oates

Valwood Summer Study 2023-24

English I Honors

Note: Obtain your own copy of the book and bring it to class when school begins.

3. Read *Chains* (2008) by Laurie Halse Anderson.

4. Annotate the book, considering the following topics:

Friendship	Rebellion
Freedom	Justice
Courage	Arrogance
Loyalty	Ignorance

Tips for annotation:

Underline key words or phrases and memorable sentences or passages.

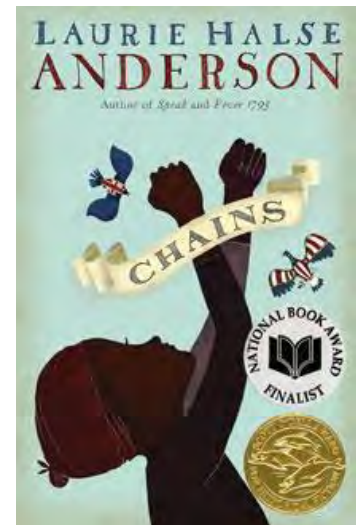
Identify unfamiliar words

Write questions in the margins about something you don’t understand

Mark and comment on characters and ideas that you find intriguing

Note the use of literary devices

Make connections to other texts, your life, your world, etc.



3. Pay attention to the quotations at the beginning of each chapter. They come from primary sources. A **primary source** refers to first-hand information that was created at the time of an event. Primary sources can be newspaper articles, speeches, court documents, letters, etc. In her book, Laurie Halse Anderson uses excerpts from primary sources to foreshadow the plot, add historical context, or contrast the plot and history.

4. **Keep a journal.** Each time you read a portion of the novel, note the date and time. Write a few sentences about what was revealed in the plot and what you learned about each character in that day’s reading. You must have at least **four** journal entries. Turn in your journal on the first day of school. This journal may be typed in a Doc or handwritten.

5. **Write a 250-word reflection** about your reaction to the novel. This writing is informal. You may use first person. Your reflection should include a discussion of specific events in the novel that provoked a notable response. What did you love? What did you hate? What caught your attention? Turn in your reflection on the first day of school.

6. Within the first two weeks of school, you will use *Chains* to accomplish the following:

- participate in a Socratic discussion of the book
- construct a theme statement for the book
- identify at least three pieces of textual support for the theme statement
- learn how to incorporate the textual support
- document the textual evidence
- write an in-class essay, adhering to MLA style and meeting the expectations of a rubric

Keep learning as you enjoy your summer break!