**Annotated Note-Taking/Literary Elements**

**Annotating notes, while reading a novel is an excellent way to keep track of literary elements within the novel. It deepens understanding of the text and broadens the reader's perspective on many elements within the novel as they occur in the text. In this way, the reader has up-to-date information, opinions and ideas about every section of the novel, making it easier to analyse and write assignments.**

**While annotating, observe make notes on the following:**

**1. Literary Style: What literary devices does the author use? Imagery; Figurative Language; Descriptive Language; Sentence structure; Word choice? Dialogue etc.**

**2. Characters: How do they interact with each other? How do they grow and change throughout the novel? Can you distinguish between the main and supporting characters? Can you identify with them? How do you feel about them?**

**3. Setting: Where are the principle locations in the novel? How does the author describe them? What image is in your mind when you picture them? How do they contribute to the mood of the story?**

**4. Main Events: What are the key events throughout the novel? What are the turning points? How do they contribute to the story and enrich the characters? What is your reaction to these events?**

**5. Theme: What is the focus of the novel? What is the author's purpose in writing the book? What message does he/she want to share with the readers?**

**6. Intended Audience: Is there a particular age, gender, population that the author is gearing this novel towards? Who might benefit from reading this work? Would you recommend it to anyone?**

**7. Own Opinion/Connections to the Text: Share your opinion, beliefs and feelings on all of the above; make connections to the text from your past/everyday experiences**

**8. Text and Society-What message can we learn from the text about past/present communities and societies?**