McKinley Technology High School

Summer Reading Assignment English III 2026- 2027 SY

Welcome to English III! This class focuses on preparing you for college-level courses. We explore a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction texts throughout the school year. Enjoy your summer, and we look forward to seeing you prepared and ready to engage critically in the course next school year.

Assignment:
Part I: Read the following text:
Orange, Tommy. *There There.* Alfred A. Knopf, 2018. (ISBN# 978-0-14-525520375) (Fiction)

- An electronic copy of the text is available on the school website: https://www.mckinleytech.org/ (McKinley Tech) (under Summer Assignment)
- Access book using this link: **https://bit.ly/EngIIISR**
- Or You can purchase a hard copy via a local bookstore or Amazon.

Read Orange's text and pay close attention to how he uses narrative techniques, such as setting, persons (characters), dialogue, action, resolution, and theme, to portray his point of view and personal experiences as an urban Native American.

Part II. Annotation the Book- Complete Three Annotation Tasks Per Chapter- ONE MUST BE VOCABULARY

Read *There There* carefully and take detailed notes for each chapter in preparation for the in-class assessment when you return to school.

As you read:

- Take notes chapter by chapter, not just by major sections or case groupings.
- Select **three annotation tasks, one of which must be vocabulary**. Record important events, key details, legal developments, and any questions that help you understand what is happening in each chapter.
- Make sure each annotation helps you understand the text and connect it to what we're learning.
- Pay attention to key individuals, conflicts, themes, and shifts
- Keep your notes short but clear so you can use them later in class for discussions and assignments.
- Capture the main idea, one key piece of evidence, important vocabulary, and your own reaction.
- Download and use the **Annotation Template** to write quick notes as you read. Use the annotation for every chapter.

Part III. Due Date- Complete Three Annotation Tasks Per Chapter

You must complete reading and annotating *There There* by **August 28, 2026.** Your annotations and chapter notes will help prepare you for the in-class assessment. There will be an in-class assessment based on your reading no later than **September 11, 2026**. Be sure your notes are thorough, organized, and ready to support your understanding of the novel.

Part IV. Due Date- Evaluation

Your first major assessment (worth 20 points and placed in the Practice and Application category, which counts for 50% of your overall grade) will now be an in-class, three-paragraph, timed analytical writing response based on your reading of *There There*.

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Annotation Tasks	4 Points (Strong)	3 Points (Good)	2 Points (Developing)	1 Point (Beginning)	0 Points
Key Words & Vocabulary Identify and define a minimum of five Unfamiliar words **Mandatory for each chapter**	Define 5 unfamiliar words clearly; show how word choice shapes meaning.	Define most unfamiliar words correctly.	definitions partly correct.	weak or missing definitions.	No keywords identified.
Main Idea Clearly identify the main idea of each section and support it with evidence.	Clearly identify the main idea of each section and support it with evidence.	Identifies the main ideas; some evidence is included.	Some ideas were identified, but not clear or supported.	Minimal attempt; ideas vague.	No main ideas identified.
Questions & Thinking Asks two questions, one prediction, one inference, and one meaningful reaction.	Ask thoughtful questions; strong predictions/inferences; meaningful reactions.	Good questions; some analysis and inferences.	Basic questions; limited thinking	Minimal questions; surface-level reactions.	No questions or reactions.
Connections: To Self To Text To World	Make meaningful connections that deepen understanding.	Clear and relevant connections.	Some weak or unclear connections.	Minimal attempt.	No connections.
Summary: Use active, strong verbs, and the present tense.	Write four clear sentences per chapter capturing the main meaning.	The summary is clear and accurate.	The summary is incomplete, unclear, or too long.	Minimal attempt; unclear.	No summaries written.

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Sample Assignment

Sample Student

McKinley Teacher

English III

26 August 2026

Annotation Tasks	Orange, Tommy. *There There*, "Prologue" 3-11.
Key Words: Identify and define a minimum of five unfamiliar words. **Mandatory for each chapter**	1. **Slander** – Saying something false about a person that hurts their reputation 2. **Assimilation** – The process of adopting the customs, language, or culture of another group, often giving up parts of your own culture 3. **Genocide** – The deliberate attempt to destroy a group of people because of their race, ethnicity, religion, or nationality 4. **Chasm** – A deep gap or divide, either physically or figuratively 5. **Premonition** – A feeling or sense that something is going to happen before it does
Main idea: Clearly identify the main idea of the chapter and support it with evidence	Tommy Orange challenges stereotypes about Native Americans by explaining how Indigenous people have survived centuries of violence and erasure while continuing to exist, adapt, and tell their stories in the modern world.
Questions & Thinking: Asks thoughtful questions; strong predictions/inferences; meaningful reactions.	**Question:** Why does Tommy Orange spend so much time correcting stereotypes and misconceptions about Native Americans before introducing the main characters? **Question:** How does the history of violence, displacement, and erasure described in the prologue continue to affect Native American communities today? **Reaction:** The prologue highlights the challenges the way Native Americans are often portrayed in history and popular culture**.** **Inference:** Orange wants readers to understand that Native American identity is not limited to reservations or historical images**.** **Prediction:** The historical trauma discussed in the prologue will likely influence their experiences and decisions throughout the story.
Connections: Make meaningful connections that deepen understanding. Select **ONE** connection.	**Text-to-Self:** I can connect to being misunderstood, judged by stereotypes, and struggle to balance different parts of my identity. **Text-to-Text:** This connects to *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, which examines what it means to be Native American in the modern world. **Text-to-World:** Many real connects to real-world issues involving Indigenous rights, cultural preservation, and the lasting effects of colonization.
Summary: Write three clear sentences per chapter, ca pturing the main meaning, using strong verbs in the present tense.	Tommy Orange explains the history of Native Americans and shows how colonization, violence, and being forced from their land still affect Indigenous people today. He challenges common stereotypes by showing that Native communities are diverse, strong, and still active in modern society. The prologue emphasizes that Native people have survived despite years of being ignored and erased, and their stories deserve to be told and understood.