

## Upper Level Level - September 2026

Week 1: Close Reading & Annotation for Meaning | Vocabulary & Comprehension

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### SECTION 1: VOCABULARY

|                    |                                                                        |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>diction</b>     | An author's specific word choices and their effect on meaning          |
| <b>syntax</b>      | Sentence structure and arrangement of words/phrases                    |
| <b>tone</b>        | The author's attitude toward the subject, revealed through language    |
| <b>connotation</b> | Emotional or cultural associations of a word beyond its literal meanin |
| <b>denotation</b>  | The literal, dictionary definition of a word                           |
| <b>nuance</b>      | A subtle distinction in meaning, tone, or expression                   |
| <b>annotation</b>  | Detailed textual notes analyzing language, structure, and meaning      |
| <b>ambiguity</b>   | Language or meaning open to multiple interpretations                   |
| <b>subtext</b>     | The implied or underlying meaning beneath the surface of a text        |
| <b>inference</b>   | A logical conclusion drawn from textual evidence                       |

### SECTION 2: USE IT IN A SENTENCE - Choose 4 words above and write original sentences.

1. Word: \_\_\_\_\_ Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Word: \_\_\_\_\_ Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Word: \_\_\_\_\_ Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Word: \_\_\_\_\_ Sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

### SECTION 3: COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. What is the difference between denotation and connotation? Give an example showing how each shapes meaning.

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2. How does an author's diction (word choice) create or reinforce tone?

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3. Describe the difference between annotating for surface meaning vs. deeper analysis.

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4. What is subtext? How do you identify it in a complex passage?

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5. How can ambiguity in a text create complexity, irony, or richer meaning?

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