**Topics to Include in Chapter Notes**

I. **Background Notes** *(key, relevant points)*

II. **Journal Notes on Chapters** *(\* carefully read ERB document on “Journals”)*

1. key background points

2. chapter questions (if provided in Study Guide for that text)

3. any other Journal topics (not listed in chapter questions)

i. **setting**

• time? place? politics? eg. a dictatorship? Nazi Germany?

ii. **central conflict**

• psychological

• individual vs society eg. anti-hero?

• resolution?

iii. **character:**

• protagonist

a) protagonist – characteristics and examples

eg. anti-hero

b) is character morally complex/ambiguous (evoking both criticism yet sympathy)?

• morally flawed? (evoking judgement) yet still redeeming/sympathetic?

• moral growth – insight (resolution of tension in text) 🡪 evokes sympathy

• secondary characters – significance:

a) foils (to protagonist)

b) representative of values/themes

c) sources of irony/humour/sympathy?

iv. **dominant** **tone** – writer’s attitude to the issue (ironic, sympathetic, satiric, shocking)

v. **theme**

• consider title - central metaphor

• ironic complexity/ambiguity in the writer’s view?

vi. **imagery**

• **dominant** (often the title) image eg. title?

-metaphor? personification (extended)?

-is there a pattern / shift in the image? (ironic use of imagery)

• one or two key images (look for image patterns: 3 or more examples of image)

vii. **diction** (only if noteworthy) eg. slang, allusions?

viii. **narrative point of view** (perspective from which story is delivered)

**a) specify exact NPV (including degree of reliability and effects):**

• first person – flashback? (more reliable)

i) at time of narration 🡪 Q: ironic gap between narrators perception and reality of situation?

ii) flashback 🡪 Q: is it more reliable?

• second person

• third person

i) one character?

ii) two characters?

iii) many characters?

iv) no particular character (omniscient)

• dialogue – how much of the story is it? Juxtaposed to character’s thoughts to create irony?

⦁ how much is dialogue?   
⦁ how much is third person NPV - from the perspective of one character? more than one? no particular character (omniscient)? effects?   
⦁ how much is first person NPV? effects of this NPV?

ix. narrative structure (only if significant eg. flashback, juxtaposition)