**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)