

**Ethan Frome Summer Reading Assignment
Honors American Literature/Composition I & II
Chapter Specific Annotation Notes**

Purpose: To help students read and explore the text on a deeper level.

Please complete the chart as you read the text. There will be a test on this novel the second week of school. This assignment is due on Thursday August 15, 2026. Additionally, you will use the information from this chart to write an in-class essay. **In your answer, please give the page number where the answer is found. Additionally, please write your answers in complete sentences. Please type the assignment.**

Any questions concerning this assignment, please email me at acampbell@montgomerycatholic.org.

Chapter	Annotation	Answer
Prologue	Write the name of the setting of the novel and when you are done reading the chapter, please explain why you think the name is appropriate.	
Prologue	Write the physical description of Ethan. (Look)	
Prologue	Write what others say to describe Ethan Frome (Effects/Actions).	

Prologue	Identify the mystery that is introduced in this chapter.	
Chapter 1	This chapter starts in a flashback. Provide evidence that supports this.	
Chapter 1	Identify any minor characters mentioned and identify who they are.	
Chapter 1	Identify at least three details that describe Ethan's personality.	
Chapter 1	Identify at least three details of the setting that help support the idea that the setting itself is a character.	

Chapter 2	Identify the detailed description of Zeena toward the end of the chapter.	

Chapter 2	Identify at least two references to the color red. Please write the quote and give the page number.	
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Chapter 2	Identify the news that Mattie shares with Ethan about Hale and Ruth.	
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Chapter 2	Identify at least three details that associate Zeena with the season of winter. Please write the quote and give the page number.	
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Chapter 2	Identify at least three details that	
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	associate Mattie with the seasons of spring and/or summer. Please write the quote and give the page number.	
Chapter 3	Identify the description of Zeena.	
Chapter 3	Identify what the following names mean: Ethan, Orion Silver, Mattie, and Zeena/Zenobia.	
Chapter 3	Find at least two details that associate Mattie with light. Please write the quote and give the page number.	
Chapter 3	Find at least three details that support the idea that Zenna is manipulative. Please write the quote and give the page number.	

Chapter 3	Briefly describe what we learn about Mattie's family history.	
Chapter 4	Identify at least two details that demonstrate the change in environment with Zeena gone.	
Chapter 4	Identify at least two references to silence.	
Chapter 4	Identify at least two references to the color red.	

Chapter	Identify at least three references to the pickle dish	
Chapter 4	The cat is a symbol. Identify a reference to the cat in this chapter and hypothesize what you think the cat symbolizes and why.	
Chapter 5	Identify at least two references to light.	
Chapter 5	Identify at least two references to the color red.	
Chapter 6	Identify Jotham's response to Ethan's offer to stay for dinner. Make sure you include Ethan's inner thoughts about	

	this.	
Chapter 6	Identify at least two references to silence.	
Chapter 6	Identify at least two references to the weather or setting.	
Chapter 7	Identify at least one location in this chapter in which Ethan feels pity for Zeena. Explain why you think Ethan feels this way. Please write the quote and the page.	
Chapter 7	Identify two quotes that show Ethan's growing resentment toward Zeena. Please give the page numbers.	
	Discuss Ethan's study. What insight does this give us about Ethan?	

Chapter 8		
Chapter 8	Identify the money motif and explain what is meant.	
Chapter 8	Identify at least three distinct references to Ethan's entrapment. Please write the quote and the page numbers.	

Chapter 8	Please find a quote that discusses the cushion and the locket. Identify what they represent.	
Chapter 9	Identify two examples of imagery (light/dark)	

Chapter 9	Identify three distinct references that support the motif of silence. Please give the quote and the page numbers.	
Chapter 9	Identify at least two distinct references to bird imagery. Please give the quote and the page number.	
Epilogue	Write a note commenting on the symbolic nature of the setting of the kitchen. How is this a contrast to how a kitchen is typically seen in most homes?	
Epilogue	Give a description of Zeena and Mattie in the Epilogue.	

Epilogue	Identify at least two references to Zeena that display aspects of her	
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	strength.	
Epilogue	Identify the last sentence of the book. Then, explain how this was foreshadowed earlier in the novel.	