

Port 339: Introduction to Portuguese and Brazilian Literary Studies
Annotation Assignment #1

This assignment helps to advance the following course learning objective:

Critical Thinking and Expression: Apply fundamental tools of literary interpretation through reading, writing, and the discussion of a balanced selection of works from the Portuguese-speaking world.

Purpose: The purpose of this assignment is to help you develop the 21st century skill of Critical Thinking. This is an important assignment that gives you an opportunity to carefully read and analyze authentic cultural texts.

Scope: For Annotation Assignment #1, you will annotate the .pdf copy of the short story, “O enfermeiro” by Machado de Assis. Your critical review should include the following elements:

Part 1. Claim or thesis statement. In one sentence, at the top of the .pdf image, write an interpretive claim about the short story (see the model for an example of how to do this).

Part 2. Supporting evidence. You should support your interpretive claim by identifying **seven** (7) quotations from the story that can serve as evidence for your interpretive claim. Highlight or underline each short quotation so that it is clearly visible on the .pdf.

Part 3. Annotations. For each of the **seven** (7) quotations you have identified, write an annotation in which you explain how the quotation supports your interpretive claim. You should have **seven** (7) annotations on the .pdf.

Style: All writing for this assignment should be in formal academic Portuguese.

Audience: The audience for this assignment is other interested and educated readers, namely, your fellow students and myself.

Rubric for the Annotation Assignment

	4 - Exemplary	3 - Proficient	2 - Developing	1 - Emerging
Thesis/Interpretive Claim <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the thesis present a claim relative to the text? Does the thesis justify debate? Is it arguable? Is the thesis limited to a single central idea? Is the thesis specific in scope? Does the thesis require textual evidence to support it? 	Claim is arguable, requires textual evidence for support, is limited to a single idea , and is specific in scope	Claim is arguable and requires textual evidence for support, but is too general in scope or includes too many ideas	Claim is not arguable or does not require textual evidence for support	No claim presented
Supporting Evidence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has the author identified and highlighted seven (7) short quotations to support the interpretive claim? 	7 identified; 7 ok length; 7 support claim; 7 highlighted	6 identified; 2 are too long; 6 support claim; 6 highlighted	5 identified; 3 are too long; 5 support claim; 5 highlighted	4 or fewer identified; 4 or more are too long; 4 or fewer support claim; No highlighting
Annotations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does each annotation <i>interpret</i> the identified quotation and <i>demonstrate</i> how it supports the interpretive claim? 	Quotation clearly and insightfully interpreted Explicitly and accurately demonstrates how quotation supports claim with specific details and examples	Quotation clearly interpreted Explicitly and accurately discusses how quotation supports claim in general terms	Quotation vaguely interpreted Indirectly or inaccurately addresses how quotation supports claim	Quotation not interpreted No demonstration of how quotation supports claim