



# *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho

## SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

BROOK HILL HUMANITIES 9 ♦ 2025

As you read, annotate directly in the book or on sticky notes. You must annotate for these things throughout the book. Please use a different color for each idea. Put a key in the front cover of the book:

- **Big Questions**: Write questions that come up as you read. These should connect to ideas and themes rather than basic story details (ex: “Why is the crystal merchant so afraid of change?” or “How does fear stop people from pursuing their dreams?”).
- **Biblical Connections**: Mark places where you notice parallels to Biblical ideas, people, or stories (ex: dreams, journeys, faith, testing, etc.).
- **Life Lessons**: Mark quotes that you personally think have truth beyond the story.
- **Favorite Quotes/Key Quotes**: Connect ideas to larger, universal themes that are still true in today’s world.
- **Character Analysis**: Is there a moment a character learns or changes? A moment that reveals what is truly at their core? Take note of these!

### **REQUIREMENTS**

- At least 20 total *meaningful* annotations. (Notes show authentic thinking & analysis.)
- Must have at least 2 of each type listed above.
- Must be handwritten. No typed or printed sticky notes.
- This will be your first quiz grade.

After reading, choose one of these assignments to complete. This is a **TEST** grade.

- **Journey Map**: Create a hand-drawn map of Santiago’s journey.
  - Include major locations
  - Decorate it with symbols representing major events.
  - Add at least five quotes or life lessons written around the map.
- **Alternate Ending**: Handwrite a new final chapter (1–2 pages) where Santiago makes a different choice at the end.
  - Stay true to the book’s style — still using dreamlike, simple, symbolic language.
  - Include a short author’s note explaining why you made the changes you did.
- **Character "Dream Chest"**: Design and illustrate a box or chest filled with five objects that represent Santiago’s growth.
  - Draw the chest and its contents.
  - Label each object with a 2–3 sentence explanation of why it’s significant to his journey.
- **"Personal Legend" Illustrated Poem**: Write and hand-illustrate a poem (at least 12 lines) about Santiago’s pursuit of his Personal Legend — or about your own dream or goal.
  - Surround the poem with drawings or symbols related to your theme.
  - The artwork and words should work together.

### **REQUIREMENTS**

- All work must be handwritten/hand-drawn.
- Grading is based on understanding of text, neatness, creativity, & thoroughness.