Consider the following questions while you read the novel and be prepared to discuss them in class. You should be able to refer to specific examples from the novel. Remember to highlight and annotate the novel. In September you will take a quiz and/or write an essay on *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway.

1. Even though the characters are named, Santiago is more often referred to as simply the “old man” and Manolin is simply “the boy.”

   What effect does this have on the novella?

2. The sea is the only female character in the novella.

   What is the relationship between the old man and the sea?  
   Is the sea a mother or romantic partner for the old man?

3. Find allusions to Christ. Why does Hemingway depict Santiago as a Christ figure?

4. Why does the old man choose to fish for marlin as opposed to squid, bait fish, tuna or shrimp?

5. What is the old man’s relationship to other animals that rely on the sea for their survival?

6. Why is the old man a baseball fan? Why does he admire Joe DiMaggio?

7. How does the old man’s choice to be isolated with the big fish effect the story and its theme?

8. Why does the old man dream about lions?