

## Summer Reading

### 6th grade:

Hello, and welcome to 6th grade English! Summer is a great time to relax and read some great books. That being said, below is your summer reading assignment.

Choose one fiction **OR** one non-fiction book from the following lists to read over the summer.

Fiction:

- *Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan
- *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by J. K. Rowling

Non-Fiction:

- *I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World (Young Readers Edition)* by Malala Yousafzai
- *The Lost Garden* by Laurence Yep

I realize many may have seen the movie version of some of these books, but there are fine differences between the book and the movie. And I know what the differences are between the two. Once finished reading the book of your choice, complete **both** assignments described below.

1. Create 3 questions based on the book you read to ask your group in class. These questions should require thought to answer, and should inspire discussion in your group. For example, you might ask what the theme of the book is and what details from the story support that theme.

Your classmates will attempt to answer your questions verbally in class, but you must write the answers to your questions on a piece of paper before the first day of school.

When answering your questions, be sure to:

Restate and answer the question completely

Use at least 2 details from the text

2. To help you visualize the story, your second assignment is to choose your favorite scene in the book and draw a comic strip depicting how you imagined the scene when reading the story. Using only the written text in the book, you will need to create pictures that illustrate your chosen scene, including the setting and characters.

Your comic should include:

- At least 3 pictures
- A paragraph describing both why you chose this scene, and if it was easy or difficult to illustrate.

Explain your answer.

**PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE WEEK BEFORE SCHOOL TO BEGIN THIS ASSIGNMENT.**

Have a great summer vacation; see you in September!

## 7th grade:

Hello, and welcome to 7th grade English! Summer is a great time to relax and read some great books. That being said, below is your summer reading assignment.

Choose one fiction and one non-fiction book from the following lists to read over the summer.

Fiction:

- *The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman
- *Two Summers* by Aimee Friedman

Non-Fiction:

- *Hidden Figures Young Readers' Edition* by Margot Lee Shetterly
- *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park

I realize many may have seen the movie version of *Hidden Figures*, but there are fine differences between the book and the movie. And I know what the differences are between the two.

Once finished reading the books of your choice, complete both assignments described below.

1. Create 3 questions based on the book you read to ask your group in class. These questions should require thought to answer, and should inspire discussion in your group. For example, you might ask what the theme of the book is and what details from the story support that theme.

Your classmates will attempt to answer your questions verbally in class, but you must write the answers to your questions on a piece of paper before the first day of school.

When answering your questions, be sure to:

Restate and answer the question completely

Use at least 2 details from the text

2. Draw the story mountain or print the following worksheet. Identify at least one scene for each section of the story mountain (exposition, rising action, climax, etc.).

On a separate piece of paper, write 4 sentences for each to explain why you chose the scene you did:

Exposition (Introduction) – What inferences can be made about the main character based on this scene?

Rising Action – How did the scene you chose increase the tension in the story?

Climax – Why did you think this scene was the climax? Explain.

Falling Action – How does this scene show the effects of the climax on the story world?

Resolution – What lesson did you learn from reading this novel? How does the ending of the story show the theme of the novel?

If you are unable to answer any of the questions above for the scene you chose, you should probably choose another scene that is more essential to the plot.

**PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE WEEK BEFORE SCHOOL TO BEGIN THIS ASSIGNMENT.**

Have a great summer vacation; see you in September!

### **8th grade:**

Hello, and welcome to 8th grade English! Summer is a great time to relax and read some great books. That being said, below is your summer reading assignment.

Choose one fiction and one non-fiction book from the following lists to read over the summer. Once finished reading the books of your choice, complete both assignments described below.

Fiction:

- o *Legend* by Marie Lu
- o *On the Fence* by Kasie West

Non-Fiction:

- o *Irena's Children: Young Readers' Edition* by Tilar J. Mazzeo
- o *Unbroken (The Young Adult Adaptation): An Olympian's Story Journey from Airman to Castaway to Captive* by Laura Hillenbrand

1. Create 3 questions based on the book you read to ask your group in class. These questions should require thought to answer, and should inspire discussion in your group. For example, you might ask what the theme of the book is and what details from the story support that theme.

Your classmates will attempt to answer your questions verbally in class, but you must write the answers to your questions on a piece of paper before the first day of school.

When answering your questions, be sure to:

Restate and answer the question completely

Use at least 2 details from the text

2. To help you understand how the same story can be told in different formats, your second assignment choose your favorite scene in the novel and rewrite it as a comic script. Use the script examples in the ELA class notebook as a model. We will be using these scripts in class to further develop descriptive writing and communication skills. You will trade scripts with a partner that be chosen for you. Based only on the comic scripts, you and your partner will draw out the scene as pages of a comic. Therefore, you will need to be sure to be detailed in your descriptions of characters, settings, and actions.

**PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE WEEK BEFORE SCHOOL TO BEGIN THIS ASSIGNMENT.**

Have a great summer vacation; see you in September!

## **English 9**

Summer Reading Project

**Due: First Day of School (September 6, 2017)**

**Read: *Uglies* by Scott Westerfeld**

**Write a review of the book.**

What were the story's main ideas, or "messages" to the reader?

What was your opinion of the book? Use some good adjectives.

What qualities of the book made you have that opinion?

What feelings did the story evoke in you? Was this because of a particular character, a scene, or the general idea of the story?

Do you think that other people should read this book? Why or why not? Do you think the book's message is important?

**This review must be at least two (2) paragraphs**

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**Complete 1 (one) of the activities listed below:**

Write a journal/diary/blog entry as if you are one of the characters

Write a letter as if you are one of the characters to another character

Write an alternative ending or an epilogue

Write a description of how you would turn the book into a movie. Think about details such as what actors you would cast, the soundtrack, setting, props, costumes, etc. Explain your choices.

Create a postcard from one of the characters\*

**This activity must be at least one well-developed paragraph of about seven (7) sentences.**

\*The postcard may be slightly shorter (4-5 sentences), but must include a drawing on the other side.

**Please bring your copy of the novel to school on September 6.**

**English 10**

**Due: First Day of School (September 6, 2017)**

**Read: *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini**

OR

*Uglies* by Scott Westerfeld

**(Teacher's note to parents: At your discretion, you may wish to substitute the novel *Uglies* instead of *The Kite Runner* for your child, based on his/her reading level and ability to handle sensitive subject matter.)**

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**Reader's Response Journal**

While reading, you must complete 8 (eight) journal entries consisting of the following:

- Write a **direct quote** (or **refer to a scene**) from the book with **page number**
- Write a personal response, which could include:

- ask a question or make a prediction about the story or character
- explain why this scene or quote might be important to the story
- make a connection to your life or another book you've read
- an emotional response that the quote or scene evoked in you
- other response

- Journal entries must be at least 3 (three) sentences each

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**Write a brief review of the book (one paragraph):**

- What were some of the main ideas of the book, or "messages" to the reader?
- What was your opinion of the book? Use some good adjectives.
- What qualities of the book make you have that opinion?
- Do you think that other people should read this book? Why or why not?

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**Please bring your copy of the novel to school on September 6.**

## **11th grade**

### **Required nonfiction:**

Read *Lively Art of Writing* and Describe your own writing style

Assignment:

Answer the following:

Which aspects of your writing do you feel you need to improve this school year

How can you use some of the ideas from this book to help you develop your writing?

Would you recommend this book to someone else? Why or why not?

### **Choose 1 fiction book:**

*Secret Life of Bees*

*Their Eyes Were Watching God*, Zora Neale Hurston

*A Yellow Raft in Blue Water*, Michael Dorris

### **Assignments for fiction book:**

Directions: choose **ONE** of the following assignments to complete over the summer, each assignment should be at least two pages typed

1. Keep a Diary or Journal in the Voice of a Character from the Book: You can follow the events of the novel and give your chosen character's impressions and reflections on those events. Be sure to go beyond the obvious. Sure, she might have been sad when her father died, but how would she write about that in a journal? What thoughts are racing through her mind? Who does she turn to for support? Is there any anger or frustration in her voice? Perhaps a sense of relief? Pick this project if you feel like the book's characters really came alive for you.

2. Write Letters Between Characters: This project can be done in two ways. You could write letters back and forth between two characters from your book. Or you could think outside the box a bit more and write letters between one character in your book and another person from literature or history.

3. Discover the Book's Relevance for You: If you like to write personal essays, full of your own opinions, don't limit yourself to a "I liked this book because..." kind of review. Think about what you got out of reading this novel.

## English 12

Due: First Day of School (September 6, 2017)

PART ONE: Read *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien

Complete the Reader's Response Journal (below)

PART TWO: Complete a first draft of your college application essay (directions below)

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### Reader's Response Journal

While reading, you must complete 8 (eight) journal entries consisting of the following:

- Write a direct quote (or refer to a scene) from the book with page number
- Write a personal response, which could include:
  - ask a question or make a prediction about the story or character
  - explain why this scene or quote might be important to the story
  - make a connection to your life or another book you've read
  - an emotional response that the quote or scene evoked in you
  - other response
- Journal entries must be at least 3 (three) sentences each

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### College Application Essay Options:

Write approximately 500 words on ONE of the following topics:

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest or talent that is so meaningful that they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then share your story.
2. The lessons we take from failure can be fundamental to later success. Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. What did you learn from the experience? How did it allow you to grow as a person?
3. Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Again, what did you learn from the experience? Would you make the same decision again?
4. Describe an accomplishment that was especially meaningful to you. Perhaps you reached a goal, solved a problem, overcame an obstacle, or achieved something beyond what you thought you were capable of. Explain why your accomplishment was meaningful to you and how it has changed your outlook moving forward.