

Grade 8 Summer Reading Assignment

Summer 2016

Name _____

Welcome to 8th grade English! This summer we hope you read a wide variety of books and enjoy every one of them. Choose one of those books to demonstrate your comprehension and critical thinking.

Which book should you choose? Select a book that you will enjoy and that will challenge you to think and wonder.

Next, buy a journal to record your four responses. You will use this same journal for all your independent reading during 8th grade. You will create four journal responses one at each quarter of the book. Each journal write should be about one page in length.

First Journal Write

1. Read the first quarter of the book and complete the following in your journal:
 - Neatly write the title and the author at the top of the page (do this for all your journal writes).
 - Write 2-3 sentences about the **setting** of your book. Then include one sentence from the text that really shows this. Put the sentence from the book in quotes and list the page number after you write it.
 - Now tell about the **protagonist** of the book. Tell this in 2-4 sentences. Use one quote from the text that gives you a good sense of this character.
 - Now tell about the **conflict**. How does the author build tension with this conflict?
 - Finally, what are noticing about the book so far? What do you like?

Second Journal Write

2. Complete this when you are halfway through the book.

- Neatly write the title and the author at the top of the page (do this for all your journal writes).
- Back to your **protagonist**. How has he or she changed by this point in the book? Explain and then use one example from the text to support this change.
- Tell some more about this **conflict**. What is the biggest challenge for your protagonist? Explain in detail this challenge and then tell why this is the most significant challenge so far in the book.
- **Imagery** - is good description. What is the **imagery** like in your book? Copy a sentence or a few sentences into your journal. Select sentences that are descriptive. This section could be about either a character or a place in the book. Now tell how this description impacted you as a reader.

Third Journal Write

3. Complete this when you are $\frac{3}{4}$ through with your book.

- Neatly write the title and the author at the top of the page (do this for all your journal writes).
- Back to your **protagonist**. How has he or she changed by this point in the book? This is called a dynamic character. Explain and then use one example from the text to support this change.
- You are building to the end of the story. How does the author build tension? Give three examples of this.

Final Journal Write

4. Complete this when you have finished the book.

- Neatly write the title and the author at the top of the page (do this for all your journal writes).
- Back to your **protagonist**. How has he or she changed by the end of the book? Explain and then use one example from the text to support this change.
- **Resolution** - explain the resolution. How did the author end the story?
- **Evaluation** - give your opinion about the specifics of the story and the writing. What did you think and why?

Enjoy your summer and enjoy the reading. Come into school ready to share this and all your independent reading with our class.



