

Grade 7/8 Summer Reading

Over the summer, students will be expected to read. Each student must read a biography or an autobiography of his/her choice. Next school year will begin with the students' biography/ autobiography reading choice; therefore, it is required that each student reads one!

Students will also be expected to read other books over the summer. Each student will create a reading journal (loose leaf paper will be fine) to create a list of books read. For each book, the book's title, author, amount of pages, genre (fictional text or informational text), and a brief reader's response (2-3 sentences each) must be written.

For the reader's response, the options on how to approach are listed below. Students are expected to have a variation of responses - not just the same choice for each book read (at least 3 different ones for each genre).

Fictional Text

- **Theme:** In your own words, explain the theme of the book was and why.
- **Characterization:** Choose one character to analyze. Explain how the author uses characterization in the text.
- **Scene:** Choose one scene and create an image reflecting that scene. In writing, briefly explain the scene you chose to create an image of.
- **Conflict:** Explain what the major conflict is in the story and why.
- **Word Choice:** Explain what words or ideas the author uses to make the story seem more realistic and/or relatable.

Informational Text

- **Detail:** In your own words, explain one major detail you have learned from reading the book.
- **Information:** Explain the basic information that is being presented in terms of the 5W's: Who? What? When? Where? Why?

- **Visual Insight:** Create an image from a pivotal (major/very important) event from the text.
- **Message:** In your own words, what is the message the individual is trying to send to the reader.

Examples:

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 Summer Reading 2019
 8th Grade ELA

1. "The Outsiders"

By: S.E. Hinton

Fiction

180 pages

Theme: In "The Outsiders", one theme that left an impression about the importance of a happy family life. Throughout the novel, the characters who came from happy, loving homes were positive and well-adjusted; whereas, those who came from neglectful and uncaring homes were angry and resentful. Characters like the three Curtis brothers, whom had lost their parents yet remained together in order to keep the happy life their parents had created, and Two Bit, whose mother had raised him to be a lazy but loving joker, all incorporate their family values in their relations with others. On the other hand, Dally, who cared for only Johnny and no one else (not even himself), and Steve Randle, who could hardly stand to share his buddy Soda with Soda's own little brother, were both from abusive, uncaring upbringings, and both were angry and resentful people.

2. "Dr. Sleep"

By: Stephen King

Fiction

531

Conflict: In "Dr. Sleep," the little boy, Danny, from Stephen King's "The Shining" has grown up and is still dealing with the same challenges from his childhood. Danny has several obvious conflicts, such as self vs. self and man vs. supernatural; however, it is when Danny must face off with the truest wickedness does his man vs. man conflict appear. The evil "family's" leader is parallel to Danny - she chose the life of evil; he chose to walk a straight line and do right by others the best

he can.