

Summer Reading

As part of your summer reading activity, you are to complete each of the following tasks as a response to reading the novel selected for your grade level. You also need to complete these tasks for the book of your choice. By the end of the summer you should have two packets to turn in on the first day of school.

The goal of these assignments is for you to engage with the characters, events and ideas contained in the novels you read. The cover page of each packet should have the title of the book, author, your name, class level and the date of completion.

1. **Setting:** Tell where the story takes place and list details from the story that describe important aspects of the setting. Explain the importance of the setting to the plot and the characters.
2. **Characters:** List the main characters in the novel and describe them. Include at least one important physical characteristic of each, as well as two significant character traits with examples from the novel that support your ideas.
3. Create a time line to the sequence of the major events of the story. (Major events cause the story to unfold and move along.) Pick at least ten events to plot on the time line and briefly describe each event as they lead toward the climax of the novel.
4. Choose one idea in the book to find out more about. Research the subject and write five important facts about the topic and how it helped you to better understand the novel.
5. Pick a problem in the story, probably one that has to do with a main character or a significant conflict in the novel. Complete the following statement: This wouldn't have happened if...(write at least a paragraph or two using examples from the story to support you ideas).
6. Rewrite a part of the novel so that something different happens.
7. What is the theme of the novel? Write about the theme of the novel and how the author reinforced the ideas through characters, events and/or setting.
8. What did you learn from the book? What new ideas or perspectives did you glean from reading the novel? Write about it in a short essay format.
9. Create a response to the novel. You may draw or paint a picture, design a new cover for the book, write some journal entries from a minor character's point of view, write a poem, create a map of the book, etc.
10. **Vocabulary:** List and define 15 words from your reading that helped you better understand the novel.