

Summer Reading Writing Assignment

Mrs. Ricci, 8th Grade Literature



This year promises to be very different from last year. You will be faced with new experiences and new challenges. Literature is supposed to provoke a response, an emotional or intellectual reaction on some level. Therefore, your summer reading will relay the reaction that you had to the book you chose to read.

Your Summer Assignment: You must read **2** different novels. Each novel must be at least 5 AR points. If your book is not on AR, please email me to see if it will suffice. **Books may not be movies.** Also, you can not read **Son** by Lois Lowry - it will be our first book we read in September.

You will answer the following writing assignment for 1 of your novels:

Choose **two** of the following prompts. You should answer each prompt in a well-constructed and cohesive 3 paragraph essay. Identify the book and author in the first paragraph. **This means there will be two, three paragraph responses.** Be sure to utilize specific examples from the book to support your sentences. **This must be handwritten, not typed.** Please make sure to check for spelling and mechanical errors. Please bring this to school on the first day.

You will complete an in class project on the other novel you read during the summer.

Prompt 1: Often in works of literature, something positive can emerge from a difficult situation. From your summer reading, describe the situation, and explain how something positive emerges from it.

Prompt 2: In a work of literature, it is not uncommon for a key character to stand up for something he or she believes in. In your essay, identify the character from your novel who does just that. Describe how the character stands up for something he or she believes in and explain how the actions relate to the work as a whole.

Prompt 3: Setting is often integral to the plot. It may, for example, symbolize a larger idea or theme. Or a change in setting may signify a shift in a key character or relationship between characters. Write an essay discussing the significance of the setting in your book. How is the setting significant? What might it symbolize?

Prompt 4: Many readers identify with a specific character while reading a piece of literature. Sometimes readers identify with a character because they share similar characteristics or interests or because they admire the character and want to be more like that person. Select a character you identify with from your reading and explain why.

Prompt 5: Frequently, popular movies are adapted into motion pictures. If you could turn your book into a movie, what would you change? What would you leave the same? Why?