

# Windham Middle School 2008-2009 Summer Reading Program

The reading and language arts departments at Middle School have decided to implement a summer reading program. It is very important to engage students' minds over the summer and to maintain or continue the gains they made over the school year. It is for these reasons that this assignment is highly suggested for all incoming sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students, however, it is not mandatory. Students who complete the project on time will receive a quiz grade that may replace a lower quiz grade earned during the first quarter of the school year.

The assignment will consist of 3 parts:

## Part I—Heading

1. Write the title, author, and genre of your book.
2. Include a picture representing the book. It may be hand or computer generated.

## Part II—Written Response

1. Write answers in paragraph form to the 20 questions attached. Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders must choose any five questions, incoming 7<sup>th</sup> graders must choose 7, and incoming 8<sup>th</sup> graders must choose any 9.
2. Your answers must display reflective thinking and use standard conventions of English. Be sure to use a topic sentence to start each response.

## Part III—Vocabulary

1. Make a list of unknown words you find while you read. Incoming sixth graders should find 5 words, incoming 7<sup>th</sup> graders should find 7 words, and incoming 8<sup>th</sup> graders should find 9 words. Write the words in the context found in the book.
2. Then, write, in complete sentences, what you thought the word meant.
3. Finally, look up the word in a dictionary and write the actual definition, including the part of speech.

Place all four of these components on an 11"x18" poster. All written components should be typed. The posters may be posted throughout the school or classroom.

\*\*\*Additionally, be prepared to present your poster to your reading class when you return to school.\*\*\*

## Grading Rubric

Component	Includes Component	Does Not Include Component
<b>Heading</b>		
Title		
Author		
Genre		
Picture		
<b>Questions</b>		
Appropriate Number		
Paragraph Format		
Sufficient Response		
Response displays reflective thinking		
Standard conventions of English		
<b>Vocabulary</b>		
Appropriate Number of Words		
Words in Context		
Definition of Word		
<b>Total (out of 12)</b>		

# Question Options

1. What was the most exhilarating part of the book? Why?
2. What is the best, or most meaningful, quote from the book? Why?
3. Describe the best scene. Why do you consider this the best scene?
4. Who is your favorite character? Why? Use four sophisticated adjectives to describe him/her.
5. What was the most boring part of your novel? Why? What would have made it more exciting?
6. What was so outstanding about the conclusion, denouement, or falling action of your novel?
7. If the conclusion, denouement, or falling action of your novel was sub-par, how would you change it to make it better?
8. What was the most devious action made by a character in your book? Explain.
9. What was the most altruistic action made by a character in your book? Explain.
10. If you could be any one character in your novel, who would you be? Why?
11. What was the most unexpected turn of events in the plot?
12. What was the author's most compelling attribute to his/her writing?
13. Did you laugh? Cry? Why?
14. Quote a part of the book that you think is an example of good writing. Explain your reasons.
15. Were there any clues that the author built into the story that helped you anticipate the outcome or ending? If so, what were they? Did you think these clues were important?
16. Describe the character you find to be most admirable or the most shallow and give specific reasons for your opinion?
17. Was the title appropriate for the book?
18. Is there anything that makes this particular author's work special or unique? If so, explain.
19. What is the main idea, the theme of the story? Draw a picture which illustrates this theme with a caption to explain.
20. Did the main character change at all during the course of the novel? As a reader, did you think this was a positive or negative thing? Why?

