

# 5th & 6th Summer Fiction Novel Assignment - Assigned Reading

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Novel Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

---

DIRECTIONS - Answer the questions below by listing detail or using bullet points, unless it states to write your answer in sentences.

TIP - While reading, you might want to jot down answers to these questions to help develop an interpretation and analysis for the novel.

---

1. **PLOT SUMMARY** (Definition: The arrangement of events in the story)

a. Tell in two or three short sentences what happens in the story.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

2. **CHARACTERS** (Definition: The people, animals, or forces that are in the story and interact in the conflict)

a. Who is the protagonist (major character)? Give name, important character trait at the beginning, important character trait at the end, and the way he/she is changed (if at all) by the end of the story.

b. Who is the antagonist (most important minor character--a story may have several antagonists)? What kind of person is the antagonist? (In other words, how is the antagonist different from the protagonist?)

c. Other important minor characters. Give name, character traits, importance to story.

---

3. **CONFLICT** (Definition: A series of problems or obstacles with which the protagonist must contend)

a. What is the main conflict? State the opposing forces as specifically as possible.

b. What are the important minor conflicts?

c. What is the climax (the specific plot event at which the reader becomes aware who wins the central conflict)?

d. What is the resolution at the end of the story? What is the result of the outcome of the conflict?

---

4. **SETTING** (Definition: The place and time, era, season, atmosphere, climate, "world" in which the action occurs)

a. What are the time and place of the story?

b. Does setting affect the action or influence characters' behavior?

---

5. **POINT OF VIEW** (Definition: The voice or persona the author creates to tell the story)

a. What specific type of point of view is used (first person; third-person limited, omniscient, objective)?

---

6. **FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE** (Definition: The use of literary devices or figures of speech to produce a secondary level of meaning in the story)

a. How does the author use similes or metaphors to help add more description to the story? Please give an example of each.

---

7. **TONE** (Definition: The author's emotional attitude toward the major character and his/her situation, as gauged by the reader's emotional response, or mood, at the end of the story)

a. Identify the tone of the opening paragraph of the novel.

b. Identify the main tone throughout the majority of the story (reader's emotional reaction as a result of the outcome of the conflict). Ask yourself: How do I feel about the character at the end of the story?

---

8. **CENTRAL IDEA** (Main idea or theme in the story; central idea goes beyond a specific statement of the action to express a general idea about the subject of the story.)

a. Identify the general subject of the story.

b. Tell in one sentence what happens in the story, including outcome.

c. Explain the theme of the story in two to three sentences.

---

---

---

---

---

---