

# 2019 Middle School Summer Reading Overview

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All rising 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students are required to complete the summer reading tasks detailed below. The assignments will be entered in as **test grades** in September of 2019. Students are to complete the assignments via Google Classroom (join code is below). PDF files of the assignments are also available to be printed on the ECS Website.

6th, 7th, 8th Grade General Education Requirements	
<b>Read 1 Fiction Book</b> You may choose your grade-level appropriate novel. You are responsible for the completion of 2 projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Complete the REQUIRED <i>One Pager!</i> Project on the novel you read</li><li>• Select one additional project from the Choice Board to complete on the novel you read</li></ul>
<b>Read 3 Non Fiction Articles</b> Articles and questions are provided on Google Classroom and the ECS Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read the three articles and answer the associated multiple choice questions - answers will be graded for accuracy.</li></ul>

7th, 8th Grade Honors Requirements	
<b>Read 2 Fiction Books</b> You may choose your grade-level appropriate novels. You are responsible for the completion of 2 projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Complete a REQUIRED literary essay on one of the novels (choose <i>Theme Study</i> or <i>Character Traits</i>)</li><li>• Select one additional project from the Choice Board to complete on the other novel you read</li></ul>
<b>Read 3 Non Fiction Articles</b> Articles and questions are provided on Google Classroom and the ECS Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Read the three articles and answer the associated multiple choice questions - answers will be graded for accuracy.</li></ul>

ECS Summer Reading Google Classroom Code
<h1>ko0b1o</h1>
<b>All middle school students will join the class using the code above. Make sure to complete your work in the proper grade level section.</b>

## Summer Reading 2019

# Table of Contents

<b>Resource</b>	<b>Page</b>
Choice Board.....	2
One Pagers! (Required for Gen. Ed).....	3
<i>Rubric</i> .....	4
The Study (Essay Option Required for 7th/8th Grade Honors).....	5-6
<i>Rubric</i> .....	7
Character Traits (Essay Option Required for 7th/8th Grade Honors)...	8-9
<i>Rubric</i> .....	10

## Summer Reading 2019

# Choice Board

Write a scene from the book from a different character's point of view.	Write an alternate ending to your book.
Create a diorama of the setting.	Create a Reader's Theater script using a major scene from your book. Include the cast of characters and stage directions to help describe events.
Create a comic strip retelling the story in your own words. Be sure to include all of the important characters, exciting events, conflicts, and resolution.	Create a new book jacket for the novel. This can be created digitally or on paper. The front cover should include the title, author, and an eye-catching image. The back cover should include a summary about the novel (in your own words).
Map Making - Look back closely at the places that were important in your book, and illustrate a map that shows where they are in relation to one another. Then create a key in which you explain why each place is so important to the story.	Return to the Future - Pretend that you are one of the characters 25 years after the novel has ended. Describe your reactions, information about your character (then and now should be present), as well as evidence of connections to the text.

## Summer Reading 2019

# One Pagers!

(Required for all Gen. Ed Students)

For this **independent reading project**, you will create a novel one-pager that depicts your response to your reading. Remember, the one-pager connects the verbal to the visual, ideas to your thoughts, and words to images. **The one-pager should be a metacognitive metaphor of your reading and learning.** When I view your one-pager, there should be no doubt in my mind that you read, were able to comprehend and connect with your book.

**One-Pager Guidelines:** Use a large piece of white construction paper or a piece of posterboard approximately 12x18 size (it should not be letter-sized paper). Fill the entire page! Must be in ink, marker, crayon or typed. Use colored pencils or markers. Please do not print pictures and glue them onto the page.

### **Required Novel One-Pager Components:**

- Title/Author
- Quotation (favorite or meaningful quote)
- Summary
- Theme (quote textual evidence)
- Setting
- Personal Connection [OR] Text-to-text Connection (quote textual evidence)
- Image or Graphic
- Tone/Mood, Symbol, or Imagery
- Characterization (quote textual evidence)

## One-Page Fiction Rubric

Title/Author	___/5
Quotation	___/10
Summary	___/10
Theme/Evidence (textual evidence)	___/10
Setting	___/10
Connection (textual evidence)	___/10
Tone/Mood, Symbol or Imagery	___/10
Characterization (2 traits & textual evidence)	___/10
Images	___/10
Effort (entire page is filled)	___/10
Rubric	___/5

**\*Points are based on it being evident that you read, were able to comprehend and connect to your book.**

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

## Summer Reading 2019

# Theme Study

(Essay Option Required for all Honors Students)

A theme is a general idea or observation about human nature. Themes include such things as friendship, love, danger, the future/past, duty, overcoming limitations, honor, bravery, betrayal, trust, good vs. evil, etc. Themes can also describe the moral or lesson a story teaches.

### **Part I: Textual Evidence**

Identify a theme in your chosen summer reading novel. As you read, record quotes/passages that demonstrate that theme. Be sure to include the page number you are quoting from! You must identify AT LEAST 10 QUOTES that demonstrate your chosen theme.

<b>Novel</b>		
<b>Author</b>		
<b>Theme</b>		
<b>Page Number</b>	<b>Quote</b>	<b>How does this quote demonstrate your chosen theme?</b>

## **Part II: Literary Essay**

Now that you have finished your summer reading novel, and have identified passages that demonstrate a chosen theme, explain the development of the theme over the course of the book in a brief literary essay. Responses MUST BE AT LEAST 2 PARAGRAPHS in length. Be sure to quote your textual evidence with proper MLA Citations (Author's Last Name pg#).

Consider the following: *What lesson(s) are there to be had from the theme? What does the theme have to say about human nature/life/the human experience? How do the lessons taught by the theme relate to your life? Did you have any predictions relating to the theme that came true?*

### **Example:**

One of the themes in Gennifer Choldenko's novel, *Al Capone Shines My Shoes* is friendship. Sometimes, juggling close friendships with multiple people can be a tricky thing. The main character of the novel, Moose, has two best friends. Jimmy is his best friend on Alcatraz Island, even though they don't share the same interests as Moose notes, "...Jimmy has become my best friend on Alcatraz, despite the fact that he stinks at baseball..." (Choldenko 11). Scout is his best friend from back home. When Scout comes to visit Moose, Jimmy gets jealous because Moose gives Scout a baseball that a convict touched. When Jimmy asks Moose why he did that, Moose replies:

"He's my friend."

"Your best friend," Scout adds.

"And what am I?" Jimmy asks

"You're my best friend too, but look, Jimmy, you live here."(Choldenko 47)

While reading, I predicted that this conflict and jealousy between Moose's best friends would become a major problem in the story. My prediction was accurate as Jimmy and Moose continued to have arguments throughout the novel. Jimmy felt left out whenever Scout came to Alcatraz stating, "The guys at my school are just like Scout. You can't play ball, you're no one...You're the only guy who likes what I like. It's kind of important..." (Choldenko 78). His jealousy towards Moose's friendship with Scout even lead him to reveal a secret hideout only he and Moose knew about: " I told Annie about this place too. Seeing as how he she's another of your best friends..." (Choldenko 121). *Al Capone Shines My Shoes* teaches a valuable lesson about friendship in that it's important to address problems with your friends when they arise. Had Moose talked to Jimmy about the jealousy he was feeling towards Scout right off the bat, he could have saved himself a lot of trouble.

## Theme Study Rubric

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

Essential Element	Point Value
Textual Evidence Graphic Organizer - minimum of 10 properly cited quotes	_____ / 25
Textual Evidence Graphic Organizer - explanation of how the quotes connect to chosen theme	_____ / 25
Literary Essay - essay must be two paragraphs in length and explain the development of the chosen theme over the course of the novel	_____ / 25
Literary Essay - essay must include properly cited textual evidence in MLA format	_____ / 25
<b>TOTAL SCORE:</b>	_____ / 100

## Summer Reading 2019

# Character Traits

(Essay Option Required for all Honors Students)

Character traits describe personality or demonstrate valued aspects of a person's behavior. Character traits are NOT physical descriptions, but focus on how a character acts, treats others, and develops throughout the novel. Character traits are usually strong adjectives such as generous, patient, brave, outgoing, timid, intelligent, aggressive, empathetic, etc.

### **Part I: Textual Evidence**

Identify a protagonist or antagonist in your chosen novel to analyze. As you read, identify a minimum of three character traits to describe him or her. Record quotes/passages that demonstrate these character traits throughout the beginning, middle, and end of the novel.

<b>Novel</b>		
<b>Author</b>		
<b>Character</b>		
<b>3 Character Traits</b>		
<b>Page Number</b>	<b>Quote</b>	<b>Character Trait/Explanation</b>

## **Part II: Literary Essay**

Use this graphic organizer/outline to help guide you in writing a two-paragraph essay that analyzes one of the three character traits you identified in Part I. When writing your final draft, you must add more sentences and detail to make your essay more interesting. Do not just copy the outline word-for-word. The sentence starters are there to help you begin your sentences, but you do not have to use them if you do not want to.

### **Paragraph 1: Introduction**

- **Hook or Attention Grabber:**
- **Title/author and main idea of the story:** (not the plot! Notice the word **idea**- That means you will identify a noun or nouns that tell what the story is about!)  
*Ex. The Dark is Rising by Susan Cooper is about*
- **Supporting sentences** (How is the character you will be writing about interesting?): *One character that stands out in the story is \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_*
- **Thesis statement** (What your essay is about. Include one strong characteristic or trait): *This character can be described as...*

### **Introduction Example:**

**(The underlined part of the paragraph is the HOOK. The next bold sentence tells what the story is about; the next larger font sentence tells how the character stands out, and the last italicized sentence is the THESIS statement)**

Have you ever felt like you were judged by the way you look and dress? ***The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton is a story about a boy named Ponyboy and his friends who are constantly getting in trouble and being judged for being “greasers”.** Ponyboy is an interesting character because he is different from his friends, but gets caught up in gang conflicts. *There are many examples in *The Outsiders* showing Ponyboy to be loyal, brave and sensitive.*

### **Paragraph 2: Body Paragraph (CLAIM, EVIDENCE, ANALYSIS)**

**Description:** (CLAIM) \_\_\_\_\_ can be described as \_\_\_\_\_ for many reasons.

**Example** (In your own words explain how the character fits that trait) Give SPECIFIC examples from the book as to how the character fits that trait

**Quote:** (Evidence) On page \_\_\_\_\_ it says \_\_\_\_\_

**Analysis:** (*This shows that ...*) How does the quote connect to the character trait?

**Example:** Another example of how \_\_\_\_\_ can be described as \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_

**Quote:** On page \_\_\_\_\_ it says \_\_\_\_\_

**Analysis:** (*Therefore*) How does the quote connect to the character trait?

**Concluding sentence:** *From these examples, it is clear that \_\_\_\_\_*

**Body Paragraph Example: Notice the quotes used and notice how the writer EXPLAINS each quote and how the quote SUPPORTS his idea that in this instance, Ponyboy is being described as being loyal.**

Ponyboy can be described as being loyal. For example, Ponyboy considers Johnny, Dallas, Two-bit and Steve to being like family and when it was time for the Socs and the Greasers to fight during the rumble, Ponyboy refused to stay home even though he doesn't really like to fight. On page 133 it says, "Right then the most important thing in my life was helping whip the Socs." This shows that Ponyboy will help defend his gang even when it means doing things he doesn't want to do. Another example is when the gang, including Ponyboy, tried to help Dally when he robbed the grocery store. On page 153 it says, "It was Dally. He phoned from a booth. He's just robbed a grocery store and cops are after him.'...We all left in at a dead run..." Therefore, Ponyboy was loyal to Dally even when he committed a serious crime. From both these examples, it is clear that Ponyboy is loyal to everyone in his gang.

## Character Traits Rubric

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

Essential Element	Point Value
Textual Evidence Graphic Organizer - minimum of 3 character traits demonstrated via properly cited quotes	_____ / 25
Textual Evidence Graphic Organizer - explanation of how the quotes connect to character traits	_____ / 25
Literary Essay - essay must be two paragraphs in length and contain a hook, main idea, thesis statement, and supporting sentences.	_____ / 25
Literary Essay - essay must include properly cited textual evidence.	_____ / 25
<b>TOTAL SCORE:</b>	_____ / 100