

June 2018

Dear Incoming 6th Grade Students & Parents,

Congratulations on your completion of 5th grade! I look forward to being your English teacher in the Fall!

For the 2018-2019 school year, you will need to read three books:

Required Reading - *Hidden Figures - Young Readers Edition* by Margot Lee Shetterly
Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt

Enrichment Reading - Choice of novel from the provided reading list

Please purchase a personal copy of *Hidden Figures* as it will be used in the classroom throughout the year for English and Religion. Make notes while you read using the Notice & Note signposts!!!

We will review the two required novels during the school year. If you tend to read more slowly, try to begin reading early in the summer. Please be prepared to discuss any aspect of the novels. You may also keep a record of your reactions to the reading, questions that you may have, and comments that you will want to make in September.

In addition to reading three books, you will complete a writing assignment. The writing assignment is designed to show your knowledge of the 5-paragraph essay and your understanding of applying textual evidence. It will be helpful to read through the assignment before reading the book, so you know what to highlight and note. Please add your notes regarding plot on the graphic organizer included. This writing assignment will be your first grade for 6th Grade ELA. **You must submit your essay to the Google Classroom for your grade by Tuesday, September 4th @ 12am.**

Google Classroom: 6th Grade Summer Reading
Classroom Code: qr7xm08

I hope that you will enjoy these selections. I will be happy to answer questions over the summer at the following email address listed below. Have a wonderful summer, and happy reading!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Angela Barton
6th Grade ELA
abarton@scmoq.org

Annotations

Please make at least two annotations per chapter in the book that you purchase over the summer. These are due the day we return to school (Tuesday, September 5, 2018). You can choose to write them directly in your novel, on post-it notes, or in a notebook.

Signposts Notice & Note to look for while reading:

Contrasts & Contradictions: When a character does something that contrasts with what you'd expect or contradicts his earlier acts or statements. Text clue: Author shows feelings or actions the reader hasn't seen before & doesn't expect. Ask yourself: Why is the character doing that?

Aha! Moment: When a character realizes, understands, or finally figures out something. Text clue: Characters say "I realized..." or "I suddenly knew..." or "Now I know why..." Ask yourself: How might this change things?

Tough Questions: When a character asks herself a very difficult question. Text clue: Character asks self or another a hard question. Ask yourself: What does this question make me wonder about?

Words of the Wiser: When a character (probably older and wiser) takes the protagonist aside and offers serious advice. Text clue: A wiser, often older, character offers a life lesson, usually in a quiet moment. Ask yourself: What is the life lesson and how might it affect the character?

Again & Again: When you notice a word, phrase, or situation mentioned over and over. Text clue: A repeated image, phrase, or reference. Ask yourself: Why does this keep happening again and again?

Memory Moment: When the author interrupts the action to tell you about a memory. Text clue: "I suddenly remembered..." or "I remember..." or "Thinking back..." Ask yourself: Why might this memory be important?

Adapted from Notice & (Beers & Probst 2013)

Name _____

Date _____

Character Traits

Directions: Identify your character, three traits which represent your character, and evidence to support each trait.

| | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Character: | | |
| Trait 1: | Trait 2: | Trait 3: |
| Evidence: | Evidence: | Evidence: |

Character Analysis

Directions: Fill in columns 2 and 3 with the information required on your character. This will help you organize your thoughts for your essay.

| Character's Attributes | Example or Quotation | What the Example Reveals About Your Character |
|--|----------------------|---|
| Character's Appearance | | |
| Character's Words | | |
| Character's Thoughts | | |
| Character's Actions | | |
| What other Characters Say or Feel about this Character | | |

Fish in a Tree Character Analysis
Due: Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Reflection Questions for Character Analysis

1. Pick a character from the novel, what character traits does the character convey?
2. What does the character *do* that helps illustrate these traits?
3. What does the characters *say* that helps to illustrate these traits?
4. What *events* take place in the work that help to illustrate these traits?
5. Are there any recurrent images or clusters of images? Do these images support the character traits identified?

Writing Your Essay

First, pick one character from *Fish in a Tree* to write your character analysis. Next, you need to form your thesis statement. After deciding on a thesis, you need to form a rough outline using the provided example. You will need to provide at least three character traits from the book to illustrate the character, which will be the components of your three body paragraphs. You will need one quote per body paragraph, so 3 quotes all together. Do not rely on the quotes to explain themselves. You need to lead into the quote, and also comment on the quote after you quote it. You need to effectively show how the quote helps to prove your point.

Outline

- Introduction Paragraph
 - Use a "hook" to grab the reader's attention
 - Use one or two sentences to express your personal opinions on the subject of the book
 - State the character and the three character traits (thesis)
 - Describe in general, how the author expresses such traits (this will be where you lead in to your body paragraphs)
- Body—Write **three** paragraphs to explain the three character traits that represent your character. Each paragraph will focus on a different character trait. To describe each example, you need to include the following information:
 - What happened? What did the character do to show the trait?
 - What did the character say or think (quotes from the character, the narrator, or other characters)?
 - What is the consequence of his/her action(s)?
 - Include a minimum of one direct quote in each paragraph
- Conclusion Paragraph
 - Restate your character and character traits
 - What did you think of the character? How has the character affected you?

Name _____

Summer Reading Essay Rubric

| CATEGORY | ADVANCED - 15 | PROFICIENT - 12.5 | BASIC - 10 | MINIMAL - 7.5 |
|------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Ideas | The paragraphs provide interpretations and draw conclusions that reflect clear and logical links between the details and the topic. | The paragraphs provide interpretations that are mostly valid and say something important about the topic. | Focus on basic ideas without much explanation. | The paragraphs are mostly comprised of ideas that suggest a lack of understanding of the topic. |
| Evidence | The body paragraphs includes 1 or more direct quotations from the text to support the topic. | The body paragraphs includes 1 direct quotation from the text, but lacks a clear explanation or connection. | The body paragraphs includes 1 direct quotation with no explanation. | The body paragraphs do not direct quotations from the text to support the topic. |
| Organization | Each paragraph's topic sentence, supporting details, and concluding sentence flow well together. Sentences are in a logical order throughout the paragraphs. Transitions enhance the paper. | Each paragraph's topic sentence, supporting details, and concluding sentence are in order. Sentences are placed in a logical order, but the writing is choppy in places. Transitions are simple but used accurately. | Each paragraph includes a topic sentence, supporting details, and concluding sentence, but order is awkward. Each paragraph is structured in sentences, but ideas are hard to follow. Transitions used sparingly or incorrectly. | The paragraphs are missing one or more key requirements (topic sentence; supporting details; concluding sentence) There is little sense that the writing is organized. Transitions absent or consistently inappropriate. |
| Grammar and Mechanics | Correct grammar and mechanics used with few to no mistakes; correct usage enhances writing | A few mistakes, but they do not affect understanding; mistakes mostly with complex structures | Mistakes are evident that affect the understanding; simple structures are mostly correct | Many mistakes throughout make it difficult to understand; mistakes with simple structures affect meaning. |

Comments:

Summer Reading List --- Suggested Titles Grades 6th - 8th

FICTION

Anderson, Laurie Halse.....Fever 1793
Avi Crispin: the Cross of Lead
Barry, Dave..... Peter and the Shadow Thieves (series)
Bloor, Edward..... Story Time; Tangerine
Bowen, Fred..... Quarterback Season
Burks, Brian..... Soldier Boy
Card, Orson Scott.....Ender's Game
Carroll, Michael..... Stronger: A Super Human Clash
Choldenko, Gennifer.... Al Capone Shines my Shoes
Clayton, Emma The Roar
Clement-Davies, D. . The Telling Pool
Colfer, Eoin..... Artemis Fowl (series)
Corder, Zizou..... Lion Boy (trilogy)
Creech, Sharon.....Absolutely Normal Chaos; Walk Two Moons; Bloomability
Crossley-Holland The Seeing Stone (trilogy)
Curtis, Christopher Paul.....Mighty Miss Malone
Deuker, Carl..... Payback Time
Dicamillo, Kate..... The Tiger Rising
Dowd, Siobhan.....London Eye Mystery
Doyle, Arthur C. The Hound of the Baskervilles
Draper, Sharon.....Out of My Mind
Flanagan, John Ranger's Apprentice (series)
Foon, Dennis..... The Dirt-Eaters
Ford, Michael..... Birth of a Warrior (series)
Gaiman, NeilOdd and the Frost Giants
Gantos, JackDead End In Norvelt
Gordon, Roderick....Tunnels (series)
Grant, MichaelGone (series)
Green, TimRivals
Haddix, MargaretDouble Identity
Hahn, MaryThe Ghost of Crutchfield Hall
Hautman, PeteMr. Was
Hill, WillDepartment 19 (series)
Hite, SidThe King of Slippery Falls
Holman, FeliceSlake's Limbo 121 Days
Jacques, BrianRedwall (series)
Jinks, Catherine.....The Genius Wars
Korman, GordonMasterminds; Schooled
Larson, Kirby.....Hattie Big Sky
Lubar, DavidWizards of the Game
Lupica, MikeFantasy League
MacDonald, Bailey ..Wicked Will
Manes, StephenAn Almost Perfect Game
McCaughrean, G.Cyrano
McKay, HilaryIndigo's Star

Mikaelsen, BenJungle of Bones
Miller, AshleyColin Fischer
Myklusch, Matt..... The Accidental Hero
Paterson, Katherine.....Bridge to Terabithia
Patterson, James..... Middle School, the Worst Years of My Life
Paulsen, Gary..... Family Ties
Pearsall, Shelley..... All Shook Up
Peck, Richard..... A Long Way from Chicago; Horse Thief
Perkovich, O.R..... 8th Grade Superzero
Petersen, P.J..... Wild River
Philbrick, W.R. The Young Man and the Sea
Pratchett, Terry Dodger
Preller, James..... Bystander
Raskin, Ellen.....The Westing Game
Riordan, Rick..... Percy Jackson and the Olympians (series)
Rook, Sebastian London, 1850 (series)
Roy, Jennifer..... Mindblind
Rupp, Rebecca After Eli
Ryan, Pam Munoz.....Esperanza Rising; Becoming Naomi Leon
Salisbury, Graham ... Hunt for the Bamboo Rat
Schlitz, Laura Amy.....A Drowned Maiden's Hair
Schmatz, Pat Bluefish
Schmidt, Gary Mara's Stories: Glimmers in the Darkness , Trouble
Shusterman, Neal.... Antsy Does Time
Sloan, Holly Goldberg.....Counting by 7s
Smith, Roland Independence Hall (series); Beneath
Spinelli, Jerry..... Hokey Pokey
Stead, Rebecca..... Liar & Spy, When You Reach Me
Tashjian, Janet.....My Life as a Stuntboy
Thomson, John.....A Small Boat at the Bottom of the Sea
Walden, Mark..... H.I.V.E (series)
Wallace, Rich.....Dunk Under Pressure
Wells, RosemaryRed Moon at Sharpsburg
Wild, KateFirefight
Wooding, Chris.....Silver
Woodson, Jacqueline.....Hush
Yancey, Richard.....The Extraordinary Adventures of of Alfred Kropp
Yee, LisaWarp Speed

NON-FICTION

Allen, Thomas..... George Washington: Spymaster
Athans, Sandra..... Tales from the Top of The World: Climbing Mount Everest with Pete Athans
Bauer, Nona Dog Heroes of Sept. 11th: A Tribute to America's Search and Rescue Dogs
Bell, Lonnie The Story of Coca Cola
Beyer, Rick The Greatest Stories Never Told
Blackwood, Gary Mysterious Messages: A History of Codes and Ciphers
Bruchac, Joseph Jim Thorpe: Original All-American
Bryson, Bill..... A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail
Carson, Ben..... Gifted Hands

Cooper, Margaret..... Exploring the Ice Age
Cork, John..... The James Bond Encyclopedia
Crompton, Samuel ... Julius Caesar
Crossingham, John... Learn to Speak Music
Crutcher, Chris..... King of the Mild Frontier
Deem, James..... Faces From the Past: Forgotten People of North America
DeVorkin, David..... Hubble: Imaging Space and Time
Diakite, Baba A Gift From Childhood: Memories of an African Boyhood
Fradin, Dennis..... With a Little Luck: Surprising Stories of Amazing Discoveries
Freedman, Russell... Freedom Walkers: the Story of the Montgomery Bus Boycott
Freedman, Russell...Who Was First?: Discovering the Americas
Fremon, DavidThe Holocaust Heroes
Gay, Peter.....Mozart
Greenhill, Wendy.....Shakespeare: Man of the Theater
Hawking, StephenThe Universe in a Nutshell
Hillenbrand, Laura ...Seabiscuit
Hoose, Phillip.....Moonbird: A Year on the Wind with the Great Survivor B95
Hopkinson, D.Up Before Daybreak: Cotton and People in America
Houston, JeanneFarewell to Manzanar
Keeley, JenniferLife in the Hitler Youth
Kusky, TimothyClimate Change: Shifting Glaciers, Deserts, and Climate Belts
Lalicki, Tom.....Spellbinder: the Life of Harry Houdini
Lassieur, AllisonEarthquakes
Lieberman, NoahGlove Affairs: the Romance, History and Tradition of the Baseball Glove
Macaulay, DavidThe Way We Work: Getting to Know the Amazing Human Body
MacKay, JoeThe Great Shutout Pitchers: 20 Profiles of a Vanishing Breed
Malone, John.....Unsolved Mysteries of Science
Mann, Charles.....Before Columbus: the Americas of 1491
Marquez, HeronRoberto Clemente: Baseball's Humanitarian Hero
Marrin, AlbertA Volcano Beneath the Snow
Marx, Jeffrey.....Season of Life
McCarty, Nick.....Rome
McKissack, PatBlack Diamond: the Story of the Negro Baseball Leagues
Meltzer, MiltonTen Kings and the World's they Ruled
Morgan, Sally.....Alternative Energy Sources
Murphy, Jim..... Truce: the Day the Soldiers Stopped Fighting
Myers, Walter D. The Greatest: Muhammad Ali
Nardo, Don Life of a Roman Gladiator
Owen, David Police Lab
Patrick, Bethanne.... An Uncommon History Of Common Things
Pfetzer, Mark Within Reach: My Everest Story
Pimm, Nancy Roe.... The Daytona 500: The Thrill and Thunder of The Great American Race Pohlen,
Jerome..... Albert Einstein and Relativity for Kids: His Life and Ideas with 21 Activities and
Thought Experiments
Randall, Bernard Alexander the Great: Macedonian King and Conqueror
Rappaport, Doreen... Beyond Courage: the Untold Story of Jewish Resistance During the Holocaust
Richard, Carl J. Greeks & Romans Bearing Gifts: How the Ancients Inspired the Founding

Sandler, Martin The Impossible Rescue: The True Story of an Amazing Arctic Adventure
Sayers, Gale I Am Third: the Inspiration for Brian's Song
Schuman, Michael Elie Wiesel: Voice from the Holocaust
Schwartz, Joseph.....Einstein for Beginners
Stewart, GailThe Trojan War
St. John, Warren.....Outcasts United: the Story of A Refugee Soccer Team that Changed a Town
Taylor, Theodore... Air Raid Pearl Harbor!: the Story of December 7, 1941
Tebow, Tim.....Through My Eyes
VanHecke, Susan... Raggin', Jazzin', Rockin':A History of Musical Instrument Makers
Walker, Sally.....Secrets of a Civil War Submarine
Walker, Sally.....Written in Bone: Buried Lives of Jamestown and Colonial Maryland
Wasdin, HowardI Am a SEAL Team 6 Warrior: Memoirs of an American Soldier
Winston, RobertWhat Goes On In My Head?
Woodward, JohnHow to Be a Genius
Zullo, AllanSurviving Sharks and other Dangerous Creatures