

Summer Reading Assignment 2023

DIRECTIONS: Students entering English 1 Honors are expected to read a minimum of **one** book of their choice. Students should choose an age-appropriate book they have not read previously. At the beginning of the school year, students will be asked to **write** about the book(s) they read over the summer. Students should work on their note-taking skills to prepare for discussions and assessments.

ASSIGNMENT OPTION: (choose one)	REQUIRED ELEMENTS:
<p>Option 1: Netflix Pitch</p> <p>You will choose one reading book you read over the summer and write a “pitch” to Netflix explaining why/how they should turn your book into the next big TV series or movie.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Begin your pitch with a brief summary/overview of your book so that the Netflix producers will get a general sense of what it is about. <input type="checkbox"/> Then, explain whether or not the show should be a TV series or a movie and why. Don't forget to include what genre the show/movie would fall under on Netflix. <input type="checkbox"/> Next, decide what/who the target audience for this show or movie would be (who would ideally watch/enjoy it) and why. <input type="checkbox"/> Consider what element(s) of the book the producers should keep the same and which they can remove or change in their adaptation of the book into film. <input type="checkbox"/> Finally, choose three characters from your book and cast them with real life actors. Explain your casting recommendations to the producers and why you think these actors/actresses would help bring the characters to life on the screen. <input type="checkbox"/> End your pitch with a few concluding sentences to really “seal the deal” and sell your book to Netflix as the next big thing.
<p>Option 2: Tissue Book Box</p> <p>Essentially, the idea is to create a visual representation of your summer reading book that you will present in the form of a tissue box (that we can stockpile the tissues and use them later on in the year when we run out!)</p> <p>Materials Needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> A tissue box (not used - it should have tissues in it!) - I recommend the cube shape (vs. the rectangle) <input type="checkbox"/> Paper, pens, markers, crayons, colored pencils, etc. to decorate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIDE 1: BOOK COVER - Design/create a (miniature) brand new book cover for your novel that somehow represents the book. Be sure to include the title of the book and the author's full name. • SIDE 2: CHARACTERIZATION - Choose one major or minor character from your book. Include the character's name, a brief description of the character, and select THREE of the following elements of characterization to explain: (Please clearly label them) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Speech: Include a “direct quotation” from your character speaking and explain why this is important to their

- ❑ If you would like to type out certain elements or print out graphics to include on your tissue box, you may!

character as a whole, what traits this quote reveals, etc.

- **Thoughts:** Include a “direct quotation” where your character is thinking privately or reflecting internally about something and explain why this moment is important to their character as a whole, what traits the quote reveals, etc.
- **Effect:** What is your character's effect on other characters? How do others feel or behave in reaction to this character? What do others say about this character? Be as specific as possible in how your character has impacted others.
- **Actions:** What are your character's most important actions in the book? How does this character generally act/behave? Do the character's actions change at all throughout the book?
- **Looks:** What does your character look like and how does this impact the book? Is there anything unique about their appearance (age, race, gender, etc.) that influences their character? What is worth noting about their appearance or how they present themselves to others?

- **SIDE 3: OVERALL MESSAGE** - What is the overall message or biggest takeaway that any reader can take away from your book? This should be a full, meaty paragraph (6-8 sentences). Please **bold** or underline the overall message and then explain how it is shown/demonstrated throughout the book.

- **SIDE 4: RECOMMENDATION** - Give the book a rating out of 5 stars (1 star = the worst, 5 stars = the best) and write 3-5 sentences explaining your rating, why you liked/disliked it, who you would recommend it to, etc. Conclude by stating whether or not the book should be added to our school library!

*Don't forget to include **your name** and **class period** somewhere on your tissue box! (the bottom is fine)

Option 3: Windows & Mirrors

“Books are sometimes **windows**, offering views of worlds that may be real or imagined, familiar or strange. These windows are also **sliding glass doors**, and readers have only to walk through in imagination to become part of whatever world has

- ❑ Start your reflection with your own interpretation of Rudine Sims Bishop's famous quote and metaphors. What is she saying? What does this quote mean to you, personally? How has this quote proven to be true (or not) in your own life and reading experiences in general?

been created and recreated by the author. When lighting conditions are just right, however, a window can also be a **mirror**. Literature **transforms** human experience and **reflects** it back to us, and in that reflection we can see our own lives and experiences as part of the larger human experience. Reading, then, becomes a means of **self-affirmation**, and readers often seek their mirrors in books”

- Rudine Sims Bishop

You will use the above quote and metaphors to write a **reflection** on how **one** of your summer reading books was either a **window** (helped you see into a new world), a **mirror** (reflected parts of your own life and experiences), or perhaps a **combination** of the two.

- ❑ **FOR WINDOW:** How does your summer reading book offer you a view through a “window” into an unfamiliar world or a new perspective on life? What does this book show or teach you about others?
- ❑ **FOR MIRROR:** How does your summer reading book reflect element(s) of your own life and experiences back to you like a “mirror”? What does this book show/teach you about yourself? How did you personally connect and relate to the characters and experiences in this book?
- ❑ Wrap up your reflection with your overall thoughts on the larger message of your book and what important life lessons or major takeaways your book can teach a 9th grade audience.

Option 4: Mood Board

You will use Google Slides to create a “**mood board**” filled with images, photos, colors, designs, etc. that combine to represent **one** of your summer reading books. You will also write an explanation behind your choices.

- ❑ **MOOD BOARD:** Using Google Slides, layer a variety of colorful images to create a “mood board” ([click here for an example](#)) that represents the different characters, setting, plot, symbols, elements, etc. of your summer reading book. Make sure the title and author of your book are included on the slide. Think about what colors or types of images best represent the “mood” and overall vibe of your book (almost as if your book had its own Pinterest board). You could even add some of your favorite “quotes” from the book.
 - ❑ TIP: You can use [this website](#) to remove the background of Google images so they can be layered.
 - ❑ TIP: Select any image in Google slides, click “format options”, and add a “drop shadow” to help the images stand out on your slide.
- ❑ **EXPLANATION:** Write 2-3 paragraphs (can be in a new Google Slide in the same presentation or a separate Google Doc) explaining the specific choices behind your mood board. Consider the following question(s):
 - ❑ Why did you choose those colors/fonts?
 - ❑ Why did you choose those specific images or quotes?
 - ❑ How did you represent the setting on your board?
 - ❑ Which specific characters or moments from your book did you choose to represent on your board? How?
 - ❑ Did you include any specific symbols from your book? If so, what do they mean or represent?
 - ❑ How did you attempt to “capture” the overall mood of your summer reading

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book? <input type="checkbox"/> OR anything else you wish to explain further and connect to your book.
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