

Middle School
Summer Reading Assignment
2025-2026

Directions: The goal of this summer reading assignment is to help you maintain and strengthen your reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. Choose one book that falls within your Zone of Proximal Development. After reading, respond thoughtfully to each of the following questions—each response should be at least one well-developed paragraph. Be sure to address all parts of each question and use correct grammar and punctuation.

1. Summarize an important event from your novel.

Begin with a clear topic sentence identifying the key event. Then, use several sentences to describe what happened, explain its significance, and how it impacts the rest of the novel. Conclude with a closing sentence that reinforces why this event matters.

2. Describe a character from the book.

Choose a character and identify a few words that best describe them. Support your description with specific evidence from the text that shows how the character's actions, thoughts, or dialogue reflect those traits.

3. Explain how the main character changes over the course of the novel.

Describe who the main character is at the beginning and how they are different by the end. Use examples from the book to show what experiences or events led to this change.

4. Identify a theme, message, or life lesson from the book.

What is one meaningful idea or lesson the author wants readers to take away? Explain the theme clearly and use examples from the novel to support your interpretation.

This assignment will be included in your Quarter 1 homework/project grade. Please submit it by Thursday, September 18.