

School year 2019-20

Language Arts 9

Part 1: Summer Reading Assignment

Due Date: The first week of school

A Separate Peace by John Knowles

You must have a copy of this book to use for class discussion during the first month of the school year.

You may either type or handwrite your summer reading assignments; typed assignments should be double-spaced. I do take off points for spelling mistakes. Please number your answers with the question number. All paragraph answers should be about 4 - 5 sentences in length.

1) Describe each of the two main characters. How would you describe their personalities? What types of conflicts do they have with other characters?

You should write 1 paragraph about each character.

2) Summarize an incident in which both characters were involved (short paragraph). What does each character's actions and response to the incident tell us about that character? (1-2 paragraphs)

3) Summarize two incidents from the book (NOT the same incident used for question 2) and discuss what each incident suggests about the characters' friendship. Discuss each incident in a separate paragraph.

4) Discuss what this book seems to be suggesting about friendship. Choose two passages (quotes) from the book and discuss what each quote suggests about friendship. You need to write down the quote and page # from the book. Discuss each quote in a separate paragraph.

5) Compare this book to another book you have read or movie you have seen. You could compare them according to issues, characters, plot, etc. Note that the word "compare" means that you can discuss similarities and/or differences.

6) Discuss something that you found interesting about the book that was not covered in questions 1-5 above. This could be something like the role of a minor character, another episode you'd like to discuss, or another idea from the book as a whole.

7) Find 5 words in the book that you didn't know the meaning of and/or you consider to be SAT (higher vocabulary) words. Write out the sentence from the book with the word underlined, and then include the correct dictionary definition for each word.

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Part 2: Summer Reading Assignment

Due Date: The second week of classes – but I **strongly** suggest that you at least have the book read before school starts as I will begin assigning homework the first week of school.

Your Choice:

Choose a book that interests you for your reading. This book should be at your reading level (it should not feel “too easy”) and should be at least 150 pages in length. It may be fiction or nonfiction. If you have trouble picking out a book, ask a friend, relative, sibling, or choose one from the suggested list below. You should read a book that you haven’t read before.

Suggested List (if you’re having trouble selecting a book):

Little Women by Louisa May Alcott (or other books in this series)

The story of a New England family of girls growing up during the Civil War.

The Scarlet Pimpernell by Baron Orkesey

A romantic hero saves the French nobility from the guillotine during the French Revolution.

Call of the Wild, Jack London

A dog’s experiences and fight for survival in the Alaskan wilderness.

Watership Down, Richard Adams

Rabbits flee the destruction of their home in a story that touches on freedom, ethics, and human nature.

Written Assignment: The ABC’s of a Novel

Instructions:

- You are going to create an alphabet for the novel you chose to read.
- At least 22 letters of the alphabet must be used to connect to something significant in that novel. You will receive extra points for using all of the letters of the alphabet (1 point per letter). For example, you could use the letter A to correspond to a character name, place, object, idea (such as “ambition”), or even something more obscure (such as describing a character’s “attitude”).
- You should include each of the following with your letter choices:
 - At least 5 – characters
 - At least 3 – setting(s)
 - At least 3 – important objects
 - At least 3 – significant actions
 - At least 5 and no more than 8 – a specific passage (quote) with page number
- Length: quotes should be at least one full sentence. All other entries should be at least 2 complete sentences.
- Be creative in your use of the letters. You may use character names, places, animals, physical items, etc. You may also include pictures/images.
- You may choose to present your alphabet in a number of different ways (as a booklet, powerpoint presentation, poster, etc.).
- You should use the letters in order (A, B, C, D, etc.).

Example:

N Nature

“--That bird’s not thinking himself at all, Ruby said, . . . Look at that beak on him. Stab wound; that’s his main nature. He’s thinking about what other thing he can stab and eat.” (12)
OR instead of using a quote from the book, you could explain why nature is important in this book..