

Covington Academy

Rising 7th-10th Grade Summer Reading List

Students are required to read at least one book from the grade list they will be entering the 2018-2019 school year and complete the required assignment. All assignments will be due during the first week of September. All Honors Literature students must also complete one additional book and assignment. See list below. Each grade level is required to complete the book assignment next to the grade level above the required title listings.

Upcoming 7th grade (Please see the attached Written Book Report Form for 7th & 8th Grade Students)

- Orphan Island, Laurel Snyder
- One Crazy Summer, Rita Williams Garcia
- The Underdogs, Laura Fitzgerald
- Peak, Ronald Smith
- When You Reach Me, Rebecca Stead
- Smells Like Dog, Suzanne Selfors

Upcoming 8th grade (Please see the attached Written Book Report Form for 7th & 8th Grade Students)

- Calico Joe, John Grisham
- On the Edge of the Sea of Darkness, Andrew Peterson
- Diamonds in the Shadow, Caroline Cooney
- Swiss Family Robinson, Johann Wyss
- Far North, Will Hobbs
- True Legend, Mike Lupica

Upcoming 9th grade (Please see 5 Paragraph Essay, Book Report Guidelines)

- Girl from the Train, Irma Joubert
- Dauntlessw, Dina Sleiman
- Whale Talk, Cris Crutcher
- Catch-22, Joseph Heller
- When I Was Puerto Rican, Esmeralda Santiago
- The Art of Fielding, Chad Harbach

Upcoming 10th grade (Please see the 5 Paragraph Essay, Book Report Guidelines)

- The Bean Trees, Barbara Kingsolver
- The Age of Miracles, Karen Thompson Walker
- Call of the Wild, Jack London
- The Great Gatsby, F. Scott Fitzgerald
- Million-Dollar Throw, Mike Lupica
- Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children, Ransom Riggs

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Book Report Form

I. Basic Information (paragraph 1)

- A. Title and author of book
- B. Genre of book
- C. Setting of book
 - 1. Place of Story
 - 2. Time of Story

II. Characters (paragraph 2)

- A. Major Characters
 - 1. Description
 - a) Age
 - b) Personality
 - c) Appearance
 - 2. Other important “stuff”
 - a) Relationship to other characters
 - b) Role in the story
 - c) Background info that may add interest
- B. Minor Characters (paragraph 3)
 - 1. Brief descriptions
 - 2. Relationship to other characters

III. Plot (paragraphs 4,5,6+)

- A. Get the story started
 - 1. Begin the story
 - 2. What interesting things happened?
- B. Problem/Climax of the story
 - 1. Build up to the climax/problem
 - 2. How is the problem/climax solved
- C. Conclusion
 - 1. Tie the loose ends together
 - 2. Tell how the story ends

IV. Your opinion (last paragraph)

- A. Express your opinion about the book
 - 1. Support your opinion with several good supporting sentences
- B. Recommendation
 - 1. Audience - who would enjoy reading this?
 - 2. Reason - why would they enjoy it?

Things to Remember

- 1. Reports are to be hand written neatly, using blue or black ink on the front side of the paper and double spaced or typed, Times New Roman, size 12 font, double spaced, 1- inch margins.
- 2. Did you complete the report on a required book from your summer reading list?
- 3. Did you proofread the final report?
- 4. Book Reports are worth 100 points

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5 Paragraph Essay

Heading, Title, and General Format

Identify student, class, assignment, due date, and page number. Put the last name and page number in the header function of your computer. Create an original title, uniquely relevant to this essay (not the book's title). Center it on the page, not underlined, below the heading and above the first paragraph. Double space and use a legible 12-point font and one-inch margins throughout. Staple multiple pages together.

Introduction (first paragraph)

Begin with a catchy opening statement. Go on to identify the book's title (underlined or italicized), author, type of work (ex. historical novel, not "fictional novel" or just "book"- all novels are fictional, all novels are books), genre (look it up!), and major themes. Briefly introduce the main characters and describe the setting (time and place). If you wish, you may also mention other titles by the author and/or pertinent details of the author's background. The last sentence of the introduction **MUST** be a thesis statement that previews the ideas you will explore in paragraphs 2, 3, and 4. Be certain that there is a direct connection between this statement and the topic sentence of each of your three body paragraphs (below).

Synopsis (second paragraph)

Begin the paragraph with the book's main idea in a single topic sentence. Go on to present a complete but concise synopsis of the book in one paragraph. This is a brief sketch of what happens: the beginning, the middle, and the end. think about the major conflict, the rising action, the climax of the story, and the resolution. Keep it brief.

Observations (third and fourth paragraphs)

In each of these two paragraphs, narrow the discussion to a significant topic. Begin each paragraph with a topic sentence that makes an observation about a particular aspect of the book: a character, a feature of the plot, an element of style, or a theme. Go on to support and expand upon your idea with specific examples, incidents, details, and at least one relevant quote from the book. Write in flowing sentences, weaving these elements from the book into your writing, not simply listing them. Cite the page number for each quote used. End each paragraph with a wrap-up sentence that ties your examples and details together in support of your topic sentence; show how they build up to your main point, what they have in common. The paragraph that makes the most important point should be the fourth one, right before your conclusion.

Conclusion (fifth paragraph)

Begin this paragraph with your reaction to this piece of literature, your response to it as reader. Avoid writing, "I think," "I feel," "I believe," or "in my opinion," but do try to express how the work has affected you, deepened your understanding, alerted or enlightened you (or even a wider audience) in some way. Go on to integrate the themes of your three body paragraphs and your essay's unique title, revealing how they relate to one another. End with a thoughtful closing statement: a concluding remark for the whole report. This could be your most important evaluative point, an intriguing twist on your title, a fitting quote, or a compelling question.