

Summer Reading Assignment

Entering 8th Grade



Novel: *The Boy on the Wooden Box* by: Leon Leyson

Hero Essay

- 1 to 1 ½ pages typed
- 12 font
- Times New Roman Font
- Double Spaced
- 4 paragraph essay

Paragraph 1: Introduction (3-5 sentences)

- Define the word hero
- Was Oscar Schindler a hero?
- Title and author of novel
- Must include thesis sentence that explains what essay is about

Paragraph 2: 1st Body Paragraph (5-7 sentences)

- Topic sentence
- State the first example of how Oscar Schindler shows that he is a hero or not a hero
- Quote from the novel
- Support or explain how the quote shows the character's actions are heroic or not
- Transition sentence

Paragraph 3: 2nd Body Paragraph

- Follow same format as paragraph 2 with a new quote and example

Paragraph 4: Conclusion (3-5 sentences)

- Sum up what you've already stated
- Restate how Schindler is or is not heroic
- Give your opinion of the novel

You will be tested on the novel during the first two weeks of school

Six Traits Writing Rubric

	6 Exemplary	5 Strong	4 Proficient	3 Developing	2 Emerging	1 Beginning
Ideas & Content <i>⌘ main theme</i> <i>⌘ supporting details</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exceptionally clear, focused, engaging with relevant, strong supporting detail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear, focused, interesting ideas with appropriate detail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evident main idea with some support which may be general or limited 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Main idea may be cloudy because supporting detail is too general or even off-topic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purpose and main idea may be unclear and cluttered by irrelevant detail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lacks central idea; development is minimal or non-existent
Organization <i>⌘ structure</i> <i>⌘ introduction</i> <i>⌘ conclusion</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectively organized in logical and creative manner Creative and engaging intro and conclusion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong order and structure Inviting intro and satisfying closure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organization is appropriate, but conventional Attempt at introduction and conclusion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attempts at organization; may be a "list" of events Beginning and ending not developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of structure; disorganized and hard to follow Missing or weak intro and conclusion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of coherence; confusing No identifiable introduction or conclusion
Voice <i>⌘ personality</i> <i>⌘ sense of audience</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expressive, engaging, sincere Strong sense of audience Shows emotion: humour, honesty, suspense or life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate to audience and purpose Writer behind the words comes through 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evident commitment to topic Inconsistent or dull personality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voice may be inappropriate or non-existent Writing may seem mechanical 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing tends to be flat or stiff Little or no hint of writer behind words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing is lifeless No hint of the writer
Word Choice <i>⌘ precision</i> <i>⌘ effectiveness</i> <i>⌘ imagery</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Precise, carefully chosen Strong, fresh, vivid images 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Descriptive, broad range of words Word choice energizes writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Language is functional and appropriate Descriptions may be overdone at times 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Words may be correct but mundane No attempt at deliberate choice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monotonous, often repetitious, sometimes inappropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited range of words Some vocabulary misused
Sentence Fluency <i>⌘ rhythm, flow</i> <i>⌘ variety</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High degree of craftsmanship Effective variation in sentence patterns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easy flow and rhythm Good variety in length and structure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally in control Lack variety in length and structure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some awkward constructions Many similar patterns and beginnings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Often choppy Monotonous sentence patterns Frequent run-on sentences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Difficult to follow or read aloud Disjointed, confusing, rambling
Conventions <i>⌘ age appropriate, spelling, caps, punctuation, grammar</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exceptionally strong control of standard conventions of writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong control of conventions; errors are few and minor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Control of most writing conventions; occasional errors with high risks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited control of conventions; frequent errors do not interfere with understanding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequent significant errors may impede readability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Numerous errors distract the reader and make the text difficult to read