



7th & 8th Summer Reading 2016

All assignments due: September 30, 2016

Incoming 7th and 8th grade students are expected to read at least 4 books over the summer, including the core novel chosen by your English teachers. The core novel will be discussed in class in September. The core novel must be annotated using the attached bookmark as a guide.

Core Novel: Must be purchased, read and annotated using annotation guide.

7th Grade Core Novel: *The Giver* by Lois Lowry

8th Grade Core Novel: *Animal Farm* by George Orwell

Novel 2 & 3: Choose 2 other books and write a novel blurb for each. See formula attached. The books may be chosen at the discretion of the student and pending parental approval. You may only choose books you have not previously read.

Novel 4: Choose one book and complete a book report using the attached written book report template. You may only choose books you have not previously read.

All assignments must be complete and submitted to your English teacher by September 30, 2016. All assignments must be signed by the student and parent. The signature ensures that the student has read the books and has completed the work independently.

Noble Leadership Academy Inc.

123 Jefferson Street, Passaic, NJ 07055

|T: 973 685 2550 |F: 973 685 2549 |E: info@noblela.org |W: www.noblela.org



Annotation Bookmark for Core Novel

Annotating Text

Know the Code!

Circle - key terms
Highlight - meanings of words
Box - important phrases
X - marks the main idea
1,2,3 - # supporting details
? - what you don't understand
! - when you're surprised!
← □ □ ↑ - to connect ideas
Brackets - make groups (label)
☆ or ✓ - important paragraphs
b/c - because + - and
w/ - with w/o - without
b/t - between b4 - before
e.g. - for example
ex - example
info - information
ü - increase, improvement
ú - decrease, decline
* - important
** - very important
w - of the utmost importance
< - point to an exact spot
□ - change
PLOT - use this + one of these:
 EXP - exposition
 CF - conflict
 S - setting
 CH - characterization
 RA - rising action
 CX - climax
 FA - falling action
 RES - resolution
POV - point of View (1st, 3L, 3O)
TH - theme
MOOD - mood TONE - tone
LT - Literary Term + one of
these:(SIM - simile, MET -
metaphor, HYP - hyperbole, ID -
idiom, PER - personification, SYM -
symbolism, FOR - foreshadowing,
FLA - flashback, IRN - irony)

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7th & 8th Grade

Quick Novel Blurb Guide for books 2 & 3

For two of the books you read, write a short book "Blurb" for each. This is the paragraph you would find on the back cover of your book. Blurbs should be no longer than a paragraph

Here is the formula:

(1) Situation. Every story has to start somewhere, with some people in some sort of circumstances. Describe them simply here.

(2) Problem. Every story (every interesting one, anyway) has some sort of hitch that either makes that situation untenable or makes change inevitable. This part of the description often starts with the word, "But..." or "However..." or "Until..."

(3) Hopeful possibility. Here's the potential to overcome the crisis. This "cool thing" or "longshot opportunity" makes your audience want to read your story. Yes, the situation (above) seems doomed by the problem (above). Still, there's hope because of this new twist. Parts 1, 2, and 3, if concisely written, together create the drama that propels the story.

(4) Mood, tone or spirit of the story. Finally, readers want to know what kind of emotional state they're going to get into while they're reading this book. Is it a dark, dystopian tragedy or humorous chick lit cotton candy? This is where you set the tone and clinch the deal, turning browsers into buyers.

Refer to your core novel for blurb samples

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7th & 8th Grade Written Book Report

- 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 Character
 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 it with several good supporting sentences
 - B. Recommendation
 1. Audience—who would enjoy reading this?
 2. Reason—why would they enjoy it?

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****Things to Remember****

1. Reports are to be either:

2-3 pages, hand written neatly, using blue or black ink on the front side of the paper. Trim the edges of notebook paper.

OR

TYPED, Times New Roman, size 12 font, double spaced, 1-inch margins.

2. Did you **proofread** the final report?

- a. Capitalize sentence starters and Proper Nouns
- b. Punctuate your paper properly (periods, commas, question marks, semi colons....)
- c. Indent paragraphs

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