

Lawrence Woodmere Academy
2019 Summer Reading Assignment
For 1st and 2nd Year
English Language Learners

Summer reading is an opportunity to explore, enjoy and enhance your literary repertoire. The English Department is asking you to create this experience for yourself this summer: You're choosing your summer readings! Perhaps you're intrigued by: classic novels, bestsellers, books that you've heard about or that have been on your "someday" list, or topics in nonfiction or people's life experiences that you want to know better from biographies or autobiographies. The point is: You choose them, you own them, and you respond to them.

Please follow the **Requirements Checklist** when choosing your summer reading book.

- Bring your book AND your Journal to English class** on Thursday, September 5th- the first day of school.
- Be prepared to write about and discuss your book.

Possible Resources for Choosing a Book:

- www.teenreads.com, especially in the "Ultimate Reading List" section
- [*Reading Lists for College-Bound Students*](#) by Doug Estell, ISBN #978-0136352518
- [*The New York Times Book Review*](#)

Requirements Checklist:

- Choose **one** book to read; this must be a novel, nonfiction book, or story collection, **at least 150 pages.** [NO graphic novels. NO texts you've already read.]
- Create a JOURNAL (handwritten or typed) for the book that you read.**
- Create a minimum of SIX journal entries**
- Title each journal entry** with the book's title and author.
- For each journal entry, create a **two-column table** like the examples shown on "How to Write Your Journal Response"
- Label the LEFT column** "Passages from the Text."
- Label the RIGHT column** "Comments."
- Be sure to include lines or passages from **THROUGHOUT** each text.
- Include **at least two "Higher Level Responses"**
- The comments must be **ENTIRELY YOUR OWN, ORIGINAL WORK.**

How to Write Your Journal Entries

LEFT COLUMN

- Choose lines or passages from the text that seem significant, powerful, thought provoking or puzzling.
- Quote a line or passage in the LEFT column. Include the page number.

RIGHT COLUMN

- Enter **your comments** about that line or passage in the **RIGHT** column.

BASIC RESPONSES:

Write at least four BASIC RESPONSES

- Give your personal reactions to the line or passage
- Tell what it reminds you of from your own experiences
- Agree or disagree with a character or the author

Sample “Basic Response” Journal Entry (from the book *All American Boys* by Reynolds and Kiely)

Passages from the text (left column)

“At practice, Coach had us running like crazy. Hales got so winded he puked in the trash can by the door to the hallway. [. . .] The rest of us crouched with our hands on our knees, or folded on our heads, trying to avoid cramps, and Coach paced in between us like he was a doctor walking through the asthma ward.” (172)

My Comments (right column)

This passage reminds me of a time in my own life when my soccer coach made us run all day. I like when the author compares the coach to a doctor on an asthma ward, because I remember how hard everyone was breathing on the day my coach made us run so much.

HIGHER LEVEL RESPONSES:

Write two Higher Level Responses

- Analyze the text for use of literary devices (word choice, figurative language, sentence structure, imagery, tone/mood)
- Make connections between different characters or events in the text
- Make connections to a different text (or film, song, etc...)
- Analyze a passage and its relationship to the text as a whole

- **Sample “Higher Level” Dialectical Journal entry: *The Things They Carried* by Tim O’Brien**

Passages from text (left column)

“--they carried like freight trains; they carried it on their backs and shoulders--and for all the ambiguities of Vietnam, all the mysteries and unknowns, there was at least the single abiding certainty that they would never be at a loss for things to carry.” (2)

My Comments (right column)

The author uses a simile comparing the weight of the soldiers’ burdens to a freight train. He uses words that show the uncertainty of the experience in Vietnam, such as “mysteries” and “unknowns” and “ambiguities”. He ends with one “abiding certainty” about the weight they carry home with them, and the title of the book takes on a double meaning.

