

Sixth Grade Summer Reading

Welcome to 6th grade! Over the summer, you are required to read at least two novels. One book may be a free choice and the other one **must be a selection** from the reading list below. Be prepared to submit the following assignments to your language arts teacher during the first week back to school in August. Have a fabulous summer and read, read, read!

1. You will submit a 3 X 5 (blank) index card that contains the following information using the book you selected as your free choice:

Side 1- Title, author, genre, setting, time period

Side 2- Write a paragraph providing a summary of the book. Include who, what, when, where, why and how.

Please make sure that your index card is legible!

2. Choose one of the writing assignments below to submit in response to one of the novels you selected from the reading list. You may type it using 12 point font and earn up to 5 extra credit points.

- **Write a friendly letter to one of the character's in the book.** Explain why you believe he or she was/wasn't heroic. Include three specific examples from the book.
- **Write a three-paragraph autobiography from the character's point of view using first person.**
Paragraph 1: Introduce who you are. Name, age, interests and where you live.
Paragraph 2: Explain what your life is like-adventurous, difficult, exciting, or challenging. Provide at least two specific examples from the book.
Paragraph 3: How do you feel about your life. Include why you feel this way and include two specific examples from the book that explain predicaments you are most/not proud of. Would you change anything about your life?

Inkheart by Cornelia Funke

Is a fantasy novel and the first book of the Inkworld trilogy. The book is about a girl named Meggie Folchart whose life changes dramatically when she realizes that her father, a bookbinder named Mortimer (nicknamed Mo), has an unusual ability: when he reads aloud, he can bring characters from books into the real world.

My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George

Sam Gibley runs away from his home in New York City in the month of May. He leaves with only a penknife, a ball of cord, a hatchet, \$40 he had saved selling magazine.

No More Dead Dogs by Vernon Korman

Nobody understands Wallace. This reluctant school football hero has been suspended from the team for writing an unfavorable book report of Old Shep, My Pal. But Wallace won't tell a lie-he hated every minute of the book! Why does the dog in every classic novel have to croak at the end?

The Incredible Journey by Sheila Every Burnford

The story, written in a realistic style (the animals do not talk, for example), tells of the adventure shared by two dogs and a cat as they travel 300 miles through the Canadian wilderness searching for their beloved masters.

Please use one of the following rubrics as you write your response.

Friendly Letter Rubric

| CATEGORY | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|----------------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| Format | Complies with all the requirements for a friendly letter. | Complies with almost all the requirements for a friendly letter. | Complies with several of the requirements for a friendly letter. | Complies with less than 75% of the requirements for a friendly letter. |
| Sentences & Paragraphs | Sentences and paragraphs are complete, well-constructed and of varied structure. | All sentences are complete and well-constructed (no fragments, no run-ons). Paragraphing is generally done well. | Most sentences are complete and well-constructed. Paragraphing needs some work. | Many sentence fragments or run-on sentences OR paragraphing needs lots of work. |
| Grammar & spelling (conventions) | Writer makes no errors in grammar or spelling. | Writer makes 1-2 errors in grammar and/or spelling. | Writer makes 3-4 errors in grammar and/or spelling | Writer makes more than 4 errors in grammar and/or spelling. |
| Salutation and Closing | Salutation and closing have no errors in capitalization and punctuation. | Salutation and closing have 1-2 errors in capitalization and punctuation. | Salutation and closing have 3 or more errors in capitalization and punctuation. | Salutation and/or closing are missing. |
| Ideas, content & topic | Ideas were expressed in a clear and organized fashion. It was easy to figure out what the letter was about. | Ideas were expressed in a pretty clear manner, but the organization could have been better. | Ideas were somewhat organized, but were not very clear. It took more than one reading to figure out what the letter was about. | The letter seemed to be a collection of unrelated sentences. It was very difficult to figure out what the letter was about. |

Three Paragraph Rubric-Autobiography(1st Person)

| CATEGORY | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|--|--|---|---|---|
| Introduction- Paragraph One (Organization) Requirements- character name, age, interests, live | The introduction is inviting, creative and met writing requirements | The introduction met requirements but is not particularly inviting or creative to the reader. | The introduction met most of the requirements but is difficult to follow | There is no clear introduction and writing requirements were not met |
| Grammar & Spelling (Conventions) | Writer makes no errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. | Writer makes 1-2 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. | Writer makes 3-4 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. | Writer makes more than 4 errors in grammar or spelling that distract the reader from the content. |
| Sentence Structure (Sentence Fluency) | All sentences are well-constructed with varied structure. | Most sentences are well-constructed with varied structure. | Most sentences are well-constructed but have a similar structure. | Sentences lack structure and appear incomplete or rambling. |
| Middle- Paragraph 2 Organization Requirements- what character's life is like and provides 2 specific examples | The student has an organized middle that is creative and met all requirements | The middle met requirements but is not particularly creative to the reader | The middle met most of the requirements but the paragraph is difficult to understand and follow | The middle is unorganized and writing requirements were not met |
| Conclusion- Paragraph 3 (Organization) Requirements- Feelings about character's life and 2 specific examples | The conclusion is strong and student met all requirements | The conclusion is recognizable and student met all requirements | The conclusion is a bit unorganized and student met most requirements. | There is no clear conclusion, the paper just ends and requirements were not met |