

Summer Reading
Pennington
8 ELA
May 2019

“Learning who you are is what you’re here to do.”
— R.J. Palacio, Wonder

Thomas Hart Academy students are encouraged to read widely and extensively, and summer is the perfect opportunity to delve into books! No other activity has as many far-reaching benefits for academic success as reading. Increasing vocabulary, recognizing varied sentence structures, perceiving the correct use of grammar, and making connections are only a handful of the advantages that reading brings. In this day and age of constant electronic distraction, reading is more valuable than ever before.

Although we hope that all students will read for pleasure throughout the summer, they will be responsible for reading two books. Students should complete the worksheet for each of the books and be ready to discuss and write on their books the first day of school.

1. Any nonfiction book of the student’s choice. The student may choose a nonfiction book on any topic that is of interest and is of a reading level that is neither too easy nor too difficult. Students should complete the Nonfiction Worksheet and bring it and the book to class on the first day of school.
2. A fiction book of the student’s choice. Students should complete the Fiction Worksheet and bring it and the book to class on the first day of school.

Nonfiction Work

Name _____

Title of Nonfiction novel _____

Answer the following questions thoroughly in complete sentences.

1. What made you choose to read this book?

2. What is the main idea of this book?

3. List three details from the book about this main idea.

4. What is the purpose and audience of this book?

5. How is the information in this nonfiction book organized? (by chronological order? By spatial order? By importance?)

6. What structures in the book help you to understand the information? (Are there chapter titles? Subheadings? Pictures and captions? A glossary? An index?)

7. What do you notice about the author's style? Are the sentences long and rambling or short and concise? Are the words long and difficult or short and simple? Does the author use much figurative language or description?

8. Do you feel the author's style is appropriate for the purpose and audience of this book?

9. Define three vocabulary words from this book that are new to you or that you think are necessary to understand the subject of the book.

10. List three things that you have learned from this book.

Fiction Work

Name_____

Title/Author of Fiction Novel_____

Answer the following questions thoroughly in complete sentences.

1. Why did you choose this book?

2. What is setting of this novel?

3. Who is the protagonist of this novel, and what does he or she want?

4. Who or what stands in the way of the protagonist getting what he or she wants?

5. Briefly describe the biggest conflict and label its type (man vs. man, man vs. self, man vs. society, man vs. nature).

6. What do you notice about the author's style? Are the sentences long and rambling or short and concise? Are the words long and difficult or short and simple?

7. Write out and label one example of figurative language (simile, metaphor, hyperbole, personification, etc.) from the book. Your example should be a complete sentence. Please put the page number in parentheses at the end of the example.

8. Define three vocabulary words from this book that are new to you (list page number).

9. What connection can you make between this book and another book you have read, movie you've seen, historical person or event, or your own life?

10. Explain the theme or what the protagonist has learned. (Life-lesson)
