



**FAIRFAX COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Mark Twain Middle School
4700 Franconia Road
Alexandria, VA 22310

Dear Parents:

This summer, Twain Middle School will continue a summer reading requirement in order to encourage continuous reading and learning. Follow-up activities have been developed by the teachers at our school, and these will be implemented in the fall.

Middle School Language Arts has [a new *Middle School Reads* site](#) highlighting great young adult books. It's a good way for our middle schoolers to explore current titles. Students may also read any book that is comparable to books on this site and approved by their parents. **Please see the next page** for more detailed information about the summer reading requirement at Twain.

Reading is crucial to academic achievement, and I urge you to encourage your child to read many books, magazines, and newspaper articles over the summer months. I appreciate your help as we all work together to support the academic program at Mark Twain Middle School.

Sincerely,

Chuck Miller

Principal

Rising 7th Grade Summer Reading Assignment Requirements

PLEASE READ BELOW BEFORE STARTING THE ASSIGNMENT!

- We encourage students to choose a book from the BlackBoard [Middle School Reads website](http://bit.ly/middleschoolreads) (bit.ly/middleschoolreads.) **However, the book you choose cannot be a graphic novel, or cannot have been turned into a movie, television show, etc.** Books on the site may fall under this category. Do not select those books for the summer reading assignment.
- Students should select a FICTION or NONFICTION book that is on **or above** their reading level.
- After reading your chosen book, you will complete the following **two assignments**. These assignments are due the first day of school.
- Help sessions will be offered over the summer. Keep an eye on our website for more information!
- Teachers will use the Summer Reading Assignment as an Assessment of their choice. For example, you may use this assignment as part of a presentation. **It is the expectation that all students complete their Summer Reading Assignment.**

Questions?

If you have any questions about this assignment, feel free to contact English Department Chair Sarah Thompson at smthompson1@fcps.edu.

The following assignments are due
for
ALL MTMS
rising 7th grade students
on the first day of school,

Summer Assignment Writing Checklist

Directions: When you are finished, use this page to help you double-check your work. What you read below is what your 7th Grade English teachers expect you to be able to do mostly well before entering 7th grade. Put a check mark next to each item and sign your name at the bottom. This paper should be included with your summer assignment when you turn it in.

For Assignment 1, I checked my work to be sure that:

- ☐ I have at least 3 responses for Assignment 1.
- ☐ Each significant quote (the left side of the page) is 1-2 complete sentences.
- ☐ Each significant quote has page numbers.
- ☐ Each reading response (the right side of the page) in Assignment 1 is at least **four** sentences.

For Assignment 2, I checked my work to be sure that:

- ☐ I only chose one of the three creative options: Option 1, Option 2, OR Option 3.
- ☐ I read and followed all directions for Part 1 of the creative option that I chose to do.
- ☐ I completed the Part II that goes with the creative option that I chose to do.

For all parts of my Summer Assignment, I checked over my work to be sure that:

- ☐ Words are capitalized correctly. This includes "I" and the names of people, characters, titles, and places.
- ☐ Words are spelled correctly, to the best of my ability.
- ☐ The ends of sentences have correct punctuation.

Your Name Printed: _____

Your signature: _____

Date: _____

Assignment #1: Reflection Journal

When we read books, our brains are constantly looking to make connections to the text. For this reason, you will pick **three** different parts of your book in which you made a significant (important) connection to what you read. **You will have a total of 3 reading responses**, which will include direct quotes from your book too.

The requirements for this part are:

- each significant quote should be 1-2 complete sentences
- each significant quote should include page numbers
- each reading response should be at least one paragraph (four sentences.)
- follow spelling, capitalization, and punctuation rules to the best of your ability

To help you with your reading responses, consider using some of the sentence starters below.

- I was confused by . . .
- I really like/dislike this idea because . . .
- This character reminds me of somebody I know because . . .
- This character reminds me of myself because . . .
- I think this setting is important because . . .
- This scene reminds me of a similar scene in (title of book/movie/T.V. show) because . . .
- I like/dislike this writing because . . .
- This part is very realistic/unrealistic because . . .
- I think the relationship between _____ and _____ is interesting because . . .
- If I were (name of character) at this point, I would . . .
- I love the way . . .
- I can't believe . . .
- I wonder why . . .
- I like the way the author . . .
- I felt sad when . . .
- I wish that . . .
- I want to know more about . . .

Ready to write? See the next page for an example and the chart you will fill out. (**If you need more space** than what's on the chart, simply finish your response on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to include any extra paper when you turn it in!)

[illegible]

Quote: (1-2 complete sentences)

Reading Response #2: (4 or more complete sentences)

Quote: (1-2 complete sentences)

Reading Response #3: (4 or more complete sentences)

Assignment #2: Creative Choice

CHOOSE ONLY ONE of the three options below. Carefully read each option. For the one you choose, **you must complete both Part I and Part II of that option.**

REGARDLESS OF WHAT YOU CHOOSE, make sure your creative piece is neat and organized and that all parts are finished. Not everyone is the best artist, of course, but everyone can put forth the effort to make this project look nice!

In an effort to save paper, you only need to print the creative option that you choose to complete. We will also have printed copies available at Twain MS during normal summer office hours.

OPTION #1, Part 1

Using the space below, create a **NEW** book cover/movie poster for your book. If your book is fiction, your creation must show understanding of the main character and theme. If your book is nonfiction, your creation should show understanding of the book's main topic and focus.

Student Name:	Book Title:	Genre:
English Teacher:	Author:	

[illegible][illegible]

OPTION #2, Part 1

For fiction books, write a journal entry from the main character's perspective as if it is happening right after the book ends.

For nonfiction books, write a letter to the author explaining your thoughts on the book. (This entry should be at least 8-10 sentences.)

[illegible]

You should also write a separate paragraph explaining why you wrote the response in Part 1. What inspired you to write what you wrote in Part 1?

You should also write a separate paragraph explaining why you wrote the response in Part 1. What inspired you to write what you wrote in Part 1?

OPTION #3, Part 1

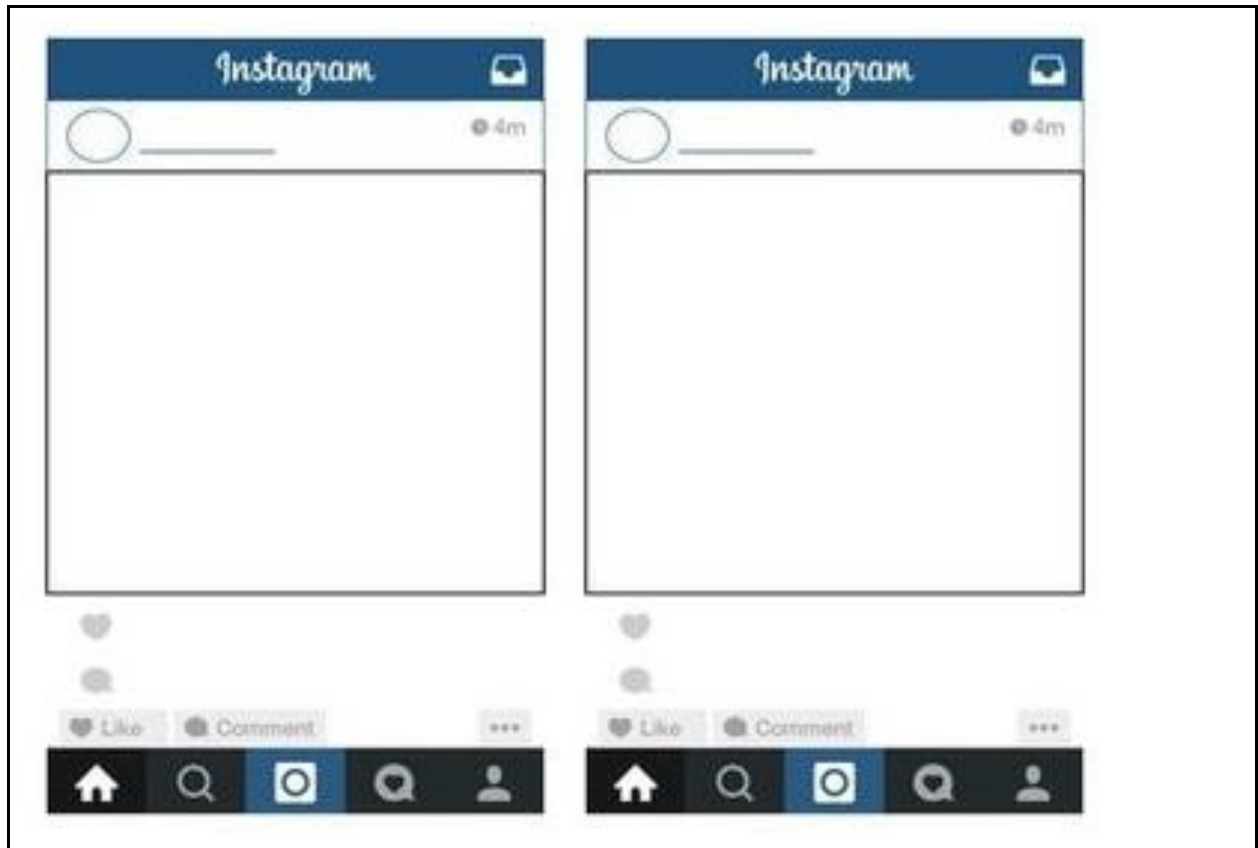
Create a **paper version** of an Instagram account for the main character or most important parts of your book. DO NOT create an actual Instagram account for your character. The pictures you create must be drawn and should focus on **important events/parts** within the story or book (minimum of four pictures). Under each picture, include a caption (must be at least one sentence) and feel free to include appropriate hashtags.

Student Name:
English Teacher:

Book Title:
Author:

Genre:





OPTION #3, Part 2

Write a separate paragraph explaining what from the book inspired you to create each picture. Why was it important? You should explain each picture in 2-3 sentences.
