

## Reading Log Requirements and Book Log Questions for 7<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA

Reading grades are determined by **several different criteria**: Literature circles, book reports, class work, class participation, and number of books/articles/poems read per trimester are a few of the assignments students will be graded on. Students **MUST** read at least 3 novels and at least 1 poem or newspaper article each trimester.

It is within the students' power to receive the grade s/he wants for the number of books read per trimester and the number and quality of questions answered.

Total Number of Items Read	Number of Novels That Must Be Award Winners or Classics	Potential Reading Grade Based Solely on What Was Read
6	3	A
5	2	B
4	1	C
3	1	D+
2	0	D
1	0	D-
0	0	F

EXTRA CREDIT **MAY BE** GIVEN IF STUDENT READS MORE THAN THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF ITEMS.

Every book/newspaper article/poem the student reads must be logged each day. Every day, the student must write a paragraph about what they read. **After completing the book the student must answer 1 of the following prompts in a one-page essay format.** Each prompt should be answered AT LEAST once per trimester.

### **FOR NOVELS (100 page minimum)**

- Find 1-2 examples of facts in the book and discuss their significance to plot development. Find 1-2 examples of opinions given by the characters in the book and explain how they show a character's personality and/or development. If the book is fiction, describe how certain elements in the plot are purely fictional (i.e. things that couldn't possibly happen in reality). Then, describe how other elements could happen in reality.
- Part I:** Identify each main character, his/her perspective and explain how the author developed his/her perspective in the story. Use 2 examples from the text for each character. Explain the author's point of view. How is the story told? 1<sup>st</sup> Person or 3<sup>rd</sup> Person? Limited or omniscient? List examples to validate your opinion.

**Part II:** Identify at least two forms of figurative language used by the author (i.e. idioms, metaphors, similes, alliteration, personification, hyperbole). Correctly cite the text with in text citation and explain in your own words what the author was conveying.
- Summarize the plot of the book in a plot map showing the exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution. (In the Exposition section, specifically show how the setting of the story shapes the character and the plot). In each section of the plot map, show how the theme or central idea was introduced and developed throughout the story. Then, write a 1 to 1 ½ page essay summarizing the novel.
- Compare and contrast your current book with a different book you read that has a similar theme. You should have at least 3 comparisons and 3 contrasts. If your current book was portrayed as something else (e.g. a play, movie, T.V. show/series, newspaper article, poem, etc), compare and contrast the book with its other form of media.

After reading a poem or article, the student must answer the corresponding prompts in a one-page essay format.

### **FOR POETRY (100 words minimum)**

**Attach a copy of the poem to you essay & answer BOTH questions in the form of an essay.**

1. Identify vocabulary words used in this poem; describe their meaning and their meaning in context. Identify figurative language the poet used (similes, metaphors, idioms, symbolism, etc) and analyze what the poet meant by using them: what was s/he trying to describe and why did s/he describe in this way?
2. Identify the impact of rhymes and other repetitious sounds used: Why did the poet use this and how did this increase/decrease the value of the poem in your eyes?

Identify the form of the poem: Was it a narrative? A ballad? An epic poem? A soliloquy? Analyze how the type of poem contributes to its meaning.

(e.g. A sonnet is a poem about love and so reading Shakespeare's sonnet 18 about comparing something to a summer's day, I can see he's comparing the woman he loves to the beauty of summer in the following ways (etc)...).

### **FOR NEWSPAPER/MAGAZINE ARTICLES (250 words minimum)**

**Attach a copy of the article with your essay.**

Choose three of the following prompts for each article you read as the three paragraphs of your essay. Do NOT use the same three prompts each time.

1. What is the main bias and idea in this article? Use several examples from the text as well as your own inferences drawn from the text.
2. Find 2 or more main ideas of the article and show how these ideas develop from the beginning of the article to the ending. Also, summarize the whole article WITHOUT stating yours or the author's biases.
3. What was the interaction between the people in your article, the events that happened to/around them and the ideas from the author him/herself? How did all these work together? (e.g. How did the person's ideas influence how they acted?)
4. Analyze the structure of the article (e.g. graphics, headers, captions) and how the author uses these plus major sections to create an article. Also, explain how the author develops his/her ideas.
5. What is the author's point of view and bias? What is his/her purpose of writing this article? How does the author distinguish her/his position from others?
6. Trace and evaluate an argument or stance in an article (e.g. find each claim, proof, reason, example, etc) and decide if the claims are reasonable or not and also if the evidence they use is relevant (important and true) and enough to support each claim.
7. What type of article are you reading? Expository or Persuasive? How do you know? If expository, list 3 facts the author presents. If persuasive, what is the main argument? Also, list 3 claims the author uses to support his/her argument.

## Daily Reading Log Options

In addition to reading 30 minutes every day and keeping a reading log, you are required to write a paragraph on the day's reading.

Below are options for you to choose from to write for your daily reading.

- 1) Make an inference about a character as you read using textual evidence. (I can infer that\_\_\_\_\_ because the text states\_\_\_\_\_.) Please go into detail about why you are making the inference.
- 2) Write down one word or phrase from your reading that you are not sure about and/or has a connotative or figurative meaning. Write down what the word or phrase actually means and how you can make a connection with the word or phrase and how can it be used in your vocabulary.
- 3) Write your opinion on what was read. Your opinion can be about an action a character took or about the writing itself, was it vivid, were you able to follow along with the events. What did or didn't the author do to help with this? What *could* the author have done to help?
- 4) Write an objective summary of the section read. Write about what really happened in the text without using your opinion or personal feelings.
- 5) Write down a line of dialogue from your reading that you feel is significant to the story. What does that line of dialogue reveal about the character who said it? How was the character feeling at the time? What were the circumstances? Why is it significant?
- 6) What is one conclusion you can draw from your reading tonight? Use evidence from the text to support your thinking.

## READING LOG RESPONSE FORMAT

*This is an example of how to take daily responses on the book you're reading.*

*You must follow this format in order to receive full credit.*

Lewis, Clive Staples. The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. New York: Harper Collins Publishing Company, 1950: 1-206.

- 8/15/2016 Today I read pages 1-9. In this section of the story, the Pevensie children were sent out of London, England to go live with a professor in the country. Their mother sends them so they can escape the air raids that have been happening. While there, the four siblings were very bored and had little to do. One rainy day, the children decided to explore the house. Lucy, the youngest found an old wardrobe and went inside. She discovered that it wasn't a wardrobe at all, but a porthole to a magical land. While there, she found a snowy land with a lamp post, and then met a peculiar creature.
- 8/16/2016 Today I read pages 10-24. In this section, Lucy gets to know the peculiar creature she found in the magical snowy land. His name was Mr. Tumnus and he was a Faun. He took her to his house and explained things to her. He told her a bit about himself and began playing a song for her on his flute. She realized how late she had stayed and wanted to leave, but he broke down into tears. When she asked him what was wrong, he told her the truth. He told her that he was commissioned by the evil White Witch to capture any humans he came across and turn them over to her. He was in the process of doing this with Lucy and felt horrible about it. Lucy was mortified to hear this and she also found out about how the witch made it always winter and never Christmas.
- 8/17/2016 Today I read pages 25-34. In this section, Lucy returns to the house frantic that her siblings had been worried about her extended absence. She came bursting back into the room exclaiming, 'I'm back!' However, she found that even though it seemed like she had been gone for hours, she was gone less than a minute. She told her siblings the story of the wardrobe, yet no one believed her. She was devastated. A few days went by and another rainy day came. The kids decided to play hide and seek. Lucy hid in the wardrobe and her brother Edmund came into the room to scare her. When he got into the wardrobe, he didn't find Lucy, but he found Narnia. He also met the White Witch.
- 8/18/2016 Today I read pages 35-45. Edmund was terrified of the White Witch when he first saw her. She asked him what he was and she found that he was a "Son of Adam" or a boy. She was scared of this yet excited at the same time. She tricked Edmund into liking her offering him Turkish Delight. She wanted him to like her and return to her with his brother and two sisters. She showed him where she lived and said that if he returned, she'd give him a lot more Turkish Delight to eat. When she left, he ran into Lucy who was excited to see that one of her siblings had found Narnia as well. She told him about Mr. Tumnus and how bad the White Witch was. He decided not to tell Lucy about his interaction with her.