

Each student will be required to read a book of their choice. Students' selections should be chapter books at least 200 pages and be written by an American author. Students should not select books that they have already read for a previous English class.

Students will complete the assignment below for 20 summative points:

Read your book and complete the following tasks:

Summary: Write a summary of the book. Include key ideas, important events, plot, and all other relevant information. (10-15 sentences)

Ex: In *Just One Day*, Allyson Healey is on a "Teen Tour" in Europe when she meets a guy named Willem. He convinces Allyson to go to Paris with him for one day. She agrees, and they go on to have many adventures. Allyson is slowly falling in love with Willem, but after she is suddenly separated from Willem, she believes he only wanted one day, no more. She eventually returns home heartbroken. When she gets home, Allyson starts college and is unhappy because she is doing what her mom wants her to do. She switches to a Shakespeare class and meets a new friend who encourages her to find Willem. She goes back to Europe and winds up in Amsterdam, Willem's home country. While there she sees Willem in a play, but he has a new girlfriend. Saddened, she decides to head back home, but quickly changes her mind. She needs to tell him how she feels. She goes to the building that she was told Willem was at, and nervously knocks on the door. The book ends with Willem and Allyson standing there in silence and confusion, until Willem allows Allyson inside.

Theme: Write a theme statement for the novel. What overall point about life, people, human nature does the novel convey? How do you know this is the theme? (8-10 sentences)

Ex: In the novel, *Just One Day*, Gayle Forman presents the idea that most of the time, self-discovery is acquired by accidents. Allyson did not go to Paris to find a new version of herself, it was just something that happened while she was there. She accidentally became a new person. After her experience in Paris, she assumed the worse, which also changed her in a negative way. Allyson also accidentally discovers that her pre-med classes are not making her happy, and that Shakespeare is. Finally, Allyson discovers herself through Willem, which to her, was one big accident. She would have never become the sassy and stubborn teenager if she never spent that day in Paris with him. She never found her new self on purpose, for the reason that she was looking for something else but happily ended up being a new person.

Relate: Write a paragraph telling how you relate to the theme or ideas found in the book. How does the book connect to your life? (8-10 sentences)

Ex: I relate to accidentally discovering myself because I never purposely look for a new and better version of myself, but I believe I have found one. I never looked, but I just accidentally created a new person out of myself, similar to Allyson. Other ideas in the book I can relate to are being stubborn because I have been, and I still am a very stubborn teenager so I related to Allyson's annoyance. Additionally, I relate to the idea of being in love because I believe I would go through the trouble for someone I was in love with too. Although if I did not know their last name, I probably would not claim that I am in love. This book relates to my life in the way that I am similar to Allyson for these reasons: I am impatient, I get jealous, and I second guess myself often. Having this much in common with the book, makes the book even more interesting and easier to understand.

Review: Write a paragraph book review. Tell us your opinion of the book, why you would recommend it or why you wouldn't (8-10 sentences).

Ex: This novel by Gayle Forman was a very interesting and intriguing story. I do recommend this to readers that enjoy romantic fiction because a good portion of the book is about the relationship between Allyson and Willem after only spending one day together. Thus, the reading audience requires maturity as some of the book includes sexual content and foul language. Other reasons I do recommend this book include it's European culture, the book contains a lot about Parisian culture and the French language. Learning about France culture was very interesting and was something I did not think I would like about the novel. That quickly changed after it gave vivid detail to its beauty. I do not recommend this to people who are impatient, as the novel does carry on at times. Overall, the book was really good. I suggest that anyone can attempt to read it, because it is a very encouraging story.

Bring your neatly written or typed responses to classes on the second day of school. We will be putting together a book pyramid in class.

Each task will be graded using the rubric below.

- 4- Student clearly addresses the prompt. Rationale is well developed and detailed, citing specific evidence the book.
- 3- Student clearly addresses the prompt. Rationale is developed and cites general evidence from the book. More details are needed.
- 2- Student addresses the prompt. Rationale is included, but fails to cite evidence from the book.
- 1- Student writes a response but fails to specifically address the prompt.
- 0- No response given.

Suggested Titles

All-American Boys by Brendan Kiely and Jason Reynolds
Allegedly by Tiffany D. Jackson
Great by Sara Benincasa
The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas
The Help by Kathryn Stockett
House Arrest by K.A. Holt
The House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer
How to Hang a Witch by Adriana Mather
Looking for Alaska by John Green
The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky
Ready Player One by Ernest Cline
That Was Then, This is Now by S.E. Hinton
We All Looked Up by Tommy Wallach

More information regarding these books can be found at <https://www.amazon.com/>, <https://www.barnesandnoble.com/>, or <https://greenelibrary.info/>. These titles are simply suggestions. Students are free to pick whatever books they want as long as they meet the requirements listed above.