

Rising 8th Grade Summer Reading:

Students will read three books over the course of the summer- a choice of one assigned book and two others from the [Middle School Summer Reading list](#).

Students should select books they have not already read and are welcome to listen to an audible version of the book; if choosing to listen to the novel, we encourage students to read along as they listen. All summer reading assignments are **due by Friday, August 19, 2022.**

Part 1

Students should choose ONE of the following books and complete the Part 1 assignment below:

- *The Giver* by Lois Lowry [Amazon Link](#) and [Barnes & Noble link](#)

OR

- *Anthem* by Ayn Rand [Amazon link](#) and [Barnes & Noble link](#)

Part 1:

Directions: For your assigned book, *The Giver* or *Anthem*, answer the following questions.

Please number each answer. You may write neatly on paper or type and print your answers to be turned in the first week of school.

1. Give the ***title*** and ***author*** of the book and the ***date*** you finished reading.
2. When and where does this story take place? (***Setting***) What other events were happening in the world during this time period? (***Context***)
3. Who is/are the ***main character(s)***? Who is the ***opposing character*** or character who makes challenges for the main character? (***Characters***)
4. What are some of the ***hardships or challenges*** the main character faces? Refer to at least ***two specific events*** in the story. (***Plot/Conflict***)
5. What does the main ***character learn about himself/herself*** and life as he/she faces these challenges or hardships? (Ex: patience, determination, acceptance of others, etc.) Use at least ***three specific examples*** from the story to support your answer. (***Themes***)

6. Write a brief paragraph showing how this story *reminds you of something else* you have read or experienced (something from the Bible? real-life? a movie? a play? another book?) Think in terms of setting, characters, conflicts, etc. Be sure you use specific details from both pieces. **(Symbols/Connections)**

7. Give this *book a rating* (4* the highest and 1* the lowest) and tell in a *few sentences* why you rated it this way. **(Opinion)**

Part 2:

Directions: Please read two other books from the [Middle School Summer Reading List](#).

For each of the books, you should write a paragraph that is at least 8-10 sentences long. You may write more if you wish! You may write neatly on paper or type and print your answers to be turned in the first week of school.

Be sure to include the following information:

- **Characters**
- **Setting:** the time and place
- **Context:** the important outside events occurring around the characters that influence the ideas in a literary work (i.e., a war, a government change, racial discrimination, a financial crisis, etc.)
- **Plot:** the events in a literary work and their sequence
- **Themes:** a major overarching or underlying idea in a literary work; an idea that an author repeats, revealing it as significant for readers to consider (ex: love, friendship, bitterness, hatred, despair, suffering, marriage, hope, death, faith, etc.)
- **Motifs:** an image, sound, action, idea, or figure that repeats. It has symbolic significance and contributes toward a theme. Though similar to a theme, it is not a central idea in a story; instead, it develops or explains a theme
- **Symbols:** An object representing another to give it a deeper and more significant meaning that is different from its literal sense. (Sometimes an idea, action, or event can have symbolic value) (ex: a dove could symbolize peace; a rose could symbolize hope or love; a chain could symbolize union or imprisonment, etc.)