

Windham Middle School
Grade 8 Summer Reading Assignment 2019

You may read at a pace that is comfortable for you, but it should be a pace at which you can create understanding. This is different for everyone, but the work **must be completed before the first day of school**. Be prepared to discuss the book in detail with others and be able to provide specific examples to support your thinking.

Ongoing Assignment as You Read Your Book:

Please complete **reading notes** on your summer reading novel. You may choose **one** of the following methods for your note-taking. Keep in mind that you **must** have notes about the beginning, middle and end of the book.

1. Written Notes

- Keep handwritten notes on lined paper about important events, characters, questions you have, and signposts that you find. Be sure to write answers to the signpost anchor questions. You may also write a summary of each chapter.

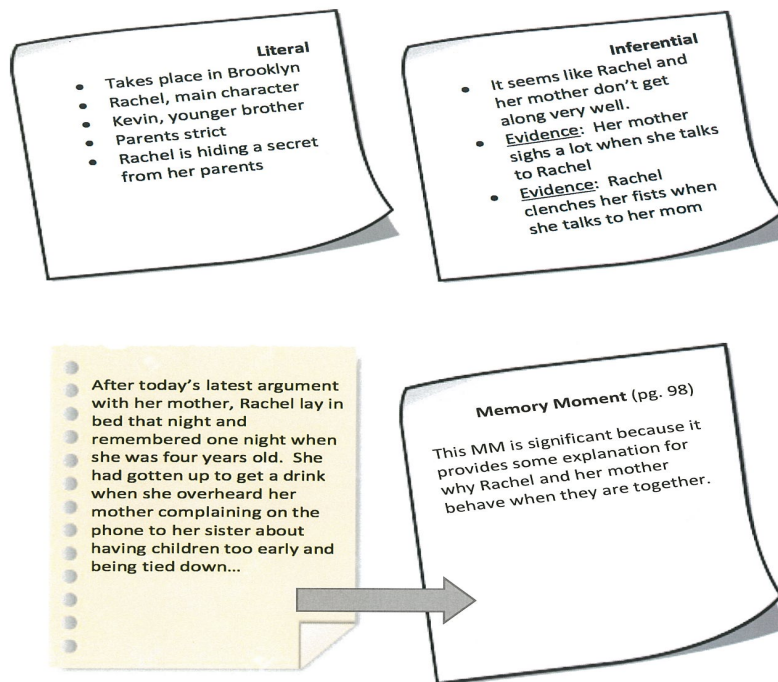
2. Annotations

- Write comments, thoughts, connections to other books or your life, and questions you have on the actual pages of your novel. Highlight and identify signposts that you notice, write responses to the anchor questions.

3. Sticky Notes

- Instead of writing on paper or on the pages of your book, you may decide to use sticky notes. Make sure the sticky notes are *at least* 3 X 3 inches. Again, you need to record important information about characters and events, connections to other books or your life, and questions that come up while you read. You should also make note of signposts and write answers to the anchor questions on the sticky notes.

Here are some examples of ways you might complete each type of sticky note.



Signpost and Definitions	Clues to the Signpost	What Literary Element it Helps Us Understand	Anchor Questions
<p>Contrasts and Contradictions A sharp contrast between what we would expect and what we observe the character doing; behavior contradicts previous behavior or well-established patterns. Also contrasts between characters or situations.</p> <p>Again and Again Events, images, or particular words that recur over a portion of the novel</p>	<p>A character behaves or thinks in a way we don't expect, or an element of a setting is something we would not expect</p> <p>A word is repeated, sometimes used in an odd way, over and over in the story An image reappears several times during the course of the book</p>	<p>Character development Internal conflict Theme Relationship between setting and plot</p>	<p>Why would the character act or feel this way? How do the contrasts between characters help us understand them? How might contrasts between situations help us predict plot or conflict? Why might the author bring this up again and again?</p>
<p>Memory Moment A recollection by a character that interrupts the forward progress of the story</p>	<p>The ongoing flow of the narrative is interrupted by a memory that comes to the character, often taking several paragraphs to recount before we are returned to events of the present moment.</p>	<p>Character development Plot Theme Relationship between character and plot</p>	<p>Why might this memory be important?</p>
<p>Aha Moment A character's realization of something that shifts his actions or understanding of himself, others, or the world around him.</p>	<p>Phrases usually expressing suddenness, like: "Suddenly I understood..." "It came to me in a flash that..." "The realization hit me like a lightning bolt..." "In an instant I knew..."</p>	<p>Character development Internal conflict Plot</p>	<p>How might this change things?</p>
<p>Tough Questions Questions a character raises that reveal his/her inner struggles</p>	<p>Phrases expressing serious doubt or confusion: "What could I possibly do to...?" "I couldn't imagine how I could cope with..." "How could I ever understand why she...?" "Never had I been so confused about..."</p>	<p>Internal conflict Theme Character development</p>	<p>What does this question make me wonder about?</p>
<p>Words of the Wiser The advice or insight a wiser character—usually older—offers about life to the main character</p>	<p>The main character and another are usually off by themselves in a quiet, serious moment, and the wiser figure shares his wisdom or advice in an effort to help the main character with a problem or a decision.</p>	<p>Theme Internal conflict Relationship between character and plot</p>	<p>What the life lesson, and how might it affect the character?</p>