

Week of May 11- May 15, 2020

Mrs. Swigart

Hello! I hope everyone is doing well. My “office hours” will be Monday 1-3, Tuesday 11-1, and Thursday 3-5. Of course, you can always email me and I will try to get back to you as soon as I can. Please feel free to email me any questions you may have. As far as turning in work goes, you can either share a doc with me, or turn it into the school. Hard copies are at the school so you don’t need to print anything. Loose leaf paper works for me as well for turning in assignments. I do ask that your name is written, with the date, class period, and the choice number. Again, please feel free to reach out to me if you need anything.

Miss you and have a great summer! - Mrs. Swigart

Class	Choice 1	Choice 2	Choice 3 (Enrichment)
8th Grade Language Arts	Write for 30-40 minutes. It can be a free write, journal entry, creative writing, poetry, etc. It should be 1-2 pages in length.	Write a full page about what your perfect summer vacation would look like.	If you had the chance to present the graduation speech, what would you say to your class? Please write a page.
8th Grade Literature	What was your favorite book this year? Explain why in 2 paragraphs, 8-10 sentences each.	Read a book of your choosing for 30 minutes. Then pick one prompt from the Independent Reading Journal Prompts Options. Your explanations should be at least a paragraph long (8-10 sentences). If you choose a project, please use complete sentences.	Write a page about what your perfect book would include. Think about setting, characters, theme, and plot, etc.

Independent Reading Journal Prompts

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Following is a list of journal prompts. Use whatever helps you to arrive at good, interesting reflections. Remember, your journal entries should be your reflections, connecting your novel to universal ideas, current events, history, yourself, etc. Also, pay attention to the writer's craft. Have fun!

Please label your journal entry.

- Describe the problem/conflict of this book.
- Summarize the main events in this book so far.
- Who is your favorite or least favorite character? Why?
- Do any of the characters remind you of yourself, a family member, or a friend? How?
- Are there situations in the story where you would have acted differently than one of the characters? Describe what you would have done.
- Compare and contrast two characters. Include at least three important similarities and three important differences.
- Describe the setting (time and place). Does it remind you of anywhere you are familiar with?
- Describe the climax (the turning point of the story when the action reaches a critical point).
- What do you like best about the story? The least? Why?
- Does this story remind you of other books you have read, movies you have seen, or experiences you have had? Describe the similarities.
- Write a letter to a friend recommending this book.
- If you could ask the author one question, what would it be? Why do you want to know this?
- Why do you think the author wrote this selection?
- What did the author do in order to "hook" the reader? Explain.
- What "pictures" does the author create in your mind? Draw and describe them.
- Have you learned anything interesting that you didn't know before reading this selection? Explain.
- Are the characters believable? Why or why not?
- Write a letter to one of the characters giving him/her advice on how to handle a problem or situation he/she is facing. Be sure to include a greeting and a closing.
- If you could spend one day with a character, who would it be and what would you do? Explain why you chose these activities for this particular character.
- How has the main character changed over the course of the story? What do you think is the cause of the change?
- What was the best part of this book? Explain.
- Are there any parts you would change? Explain.
- How did you feel while reading this book? Why did you feel this way?
- Pretend you are a character in the story. Write a diary entry as the character, explaining what has happened to you and how you feel about it.
- Using the text, illustrate a descriptive passage, a key scene, or a character (this should take some time and effort . . . no stick figures!). Describe the picture.
- Create a timeline of important events in the story. Give corresponding page numbers by each event.
- What are two attributes that describe a particular character? Give at least two examples for each attribute that support your opinion.
- Prepare an interview with your favorite character in the book. Prepare at least 10 questions to ask the character. Write the character's answers to the questions.
- Cast the film version of the book. Decide which real life actors and actresses should play the parts of the main characters. Include photos and descriptions of the stars you've selected and an explanation of why each is "perfect" for the part.

- Turn the book or a portion of it into a comic book with comic-style illustrations and dialogue bubbles.
- Create a poem that a character in the book would write. The poem may focus on a situation in the book or describe how the character feels about what is happening.
- Write a postscript or a continuation to the story, explaining future occurrences in the characters' lives.
- Write a letter from one character to another.
- Design a travel brochure focusing on the setting of the book. Include a map with explanatory notes of significant places. Describe the type of activities that tourists might find there.
- Create the front page of a newspaper based on the events in the book.
- Develop a fact sheet about the book, listing 10 facts that you learned from reading it. The facts must be written in complete sentences and include details you didn't know before reading the book.
- Design a book jacket for the book. Include an original book blurb and information about the author on the jacket along with your review comments. The jacket should "sell" the book to other readers.
- Make a list of 10 or 15 rules by which the main character in the book lives. Tell how these rules compare to the rules you live by. Tell how the character's life would have been different if you had been living it.
- Pretend that you are a fortune-teller and predict what each of the main characters will be doing in their lives ten years after the story ends. Explain your prediction for each character.
- Write a letter of recommendation for one of the main characters in the book. It can be a letter of recommendation for a job or for college admission. Discuss the good and bad points of the character and why you are recommending that character for the job or school.

(taken from Mr. Crumb and L. Cornwell)

I liked the way that the writer...

I didn't like...because...

This novel makes me realize...

The most important thing about this novel is...

If I were (name of character), I would (wouldn't) have

What happened in the novel was very realistic (unrealistic) because...

I agree (disagree) with the writer about ...

I think the title is a good (strange/misleading) choice because....

A better title for this book would be...because....

In my opinion, the most important word (sentence/paragraph) in this novel is...because...

If I could talk to (name of character), I would say...

The novel is similar to (different from) other novels I have read because...

The novel is similar to (different from) other novels by this writer because ...