

ELA Summer Reading Assignment 2019

Part 1

Assigned novel for Middle school students, The Lions of Little Rock by Kristin Levine

This assignment may be typed or neatly handwritten. Also, signed by a parent that you read the novel.

1. Read the novel, The Lions of Little Rock by Kristen Levine
2. Divide your novel into 5 sections, put a post it note every 58 pages to help you.
3. Choose a meaningful passage from each of the 5 sections of your novel. Cite the page number of the passage. A passage is a substantial length of text.
4. Next, use one response below to give your personal insight for each of the five passages, not a summary. Your response needs to explain the text you chose.
5. Each of the 5 responses needs to be different, not all 5 on character, or all 5 on setting etc....

You may use the following prompts to help you give that personal insight;

- a. This passage is important because...
- b. This passage reveals the character's...
- c. This passage fits with the book as a whole since...
- d. Christians can relate to this quote because.....
- e. This excerpt makes me feel (angry/sympathetic/confused/ etc....) because
- f. This character reminds me of...
- g. This character exhibits the quality of courage, honesty, etc....
- h. The point the author wants to make here is...
- i. I have felt the same emotions as this character when...
- j. The author uses literary device of imagery, symbolism, theme, etc....
- k. This setting is significant because...
- l. The author does a good/bad job of....

Example:

Passage 1 Example

"Fire swamps are, of course, entirely misnamed...Simply, there are swamps which contain a large percentage of sulfur and other gas bubbles that burst continually into flame. They are covered with lush giant trees that shadow the ground, making the flame bursts seems particularly dramatic. Because they are dark, they are almost always quite moist, thereby attracting the standard insect and alligator community that prefers a moist climate" (page 199)

Student Response

The author uses imagery in this passage as he describes the fire swamps. The writing is so powerful that I could see in my mind a huge, dark swamp like something out of a fairy tale, only with jets of flames popping up. The author does a great job of describing the swamps and why they were such a terror to Florin and Guilder.

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Part 2

Read a novel of your choice

Include the title and author, parent signature that you completed reading the novel.

Some suggested titles are:

1. Watership Down, Richard Adams
2. The Black Pearl, Scott O'Dell
3. Island of the Blue Dolphins, Scott O'Dell
4. A Wrinkle in Time, Madeline L'Engle
5. The Westing Game, Ellen Raskin
6. White Fang, Jack London
7. Treasure Island, Robert Louis Stevenson
8. The Call of the Wild, Jack London
9. The Endless Steppe Growing Up in Siberia, Ester Hautizig
10. Diary of A Young Girl, Anne Frank
11. Julie of the Wolves, Jean Craighead George
12. To Be a Slave, Julius Lester
13. Little Women, Louisa May Alcott
14. Anne of Green Gables, L.M. Montgomery
15. The Witch of Blackbird Pond, Elizabeth Speare
16. Number the Stars, Lois Lowry
17. The Heart of Darkness, Joseph Conrad
18. The Chocolate War, Robert Cormier
19. Old Yeller, William Gibson
20. Where the Red Fern Grows, Wilson Rawls
21. The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe, C.S. Lewis
22. Of Mice and Men, John Steinbeck
23. My Antonia, Willa Cather
24. Call of the Wild, Jack London
25. Out of the Dust, Karen Hesse

General Novel Study Assignment

1. Conduct research on the author. Choose two internet sources and cite them. Learn basic facts about his/her life. Some suggestions: How or when did the author start writing? What inspired the author to start writing? 3-4 sentences total minimum.
2. Basic Components of the novel: answer in MLA format (paragraph format) a minimum of 2 paragraphs for this section, 8-10 sentences per paragraph.
 - a) Setting-place and time
 - b) Plot – tell what happens in the novel highlighting main events and character. What major problems did the character have and was it solved, and how? If not resolved, how do you imagine the conflict was resolved?
 - c) Character- describe the main character(s)
 - d) Theme- in your own words, explain the author's message for this book. What point about human values or experiences is he/she trying to make?
 - e) What is the basic mood of the book? Give specific examples, a minimum of 2.
3. Write a poem summarizing the poem, a minimum of 20 lines of text. The poem does not have to rhyme.