

BRAINTREE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
2010 SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT
Entering Grades 8-12

As you read the assigned summer reading, you have a choice of two written assignments. You may **either** write a reader response **OR** answer notetaking questions for each book you read. The reader responses are explained below. The notetaking questions are on the reverse of this sheet. **You do not have to do both.** Choose **either** the assignment on this side **OR** the assignment on the reverse side for each book. You may do a reader response for one book and notetaking questions for the other book if you wish.

Choice A:

READER RESPONSE PROMPTS
Entering Grades 8-12

*Use these response prompts to help you think about what you are reading. Respond to one of the following nine prompts for each book you read. Handwrite your responses on separate sheets of paper. **Do not write more than two pages for each response.** You may refer to your handwritten responses during your test on summer reading. Your English teacher will collect your written responses.*

1. Imagine that you are a character in the book, and write a diary entry about your experiences, thoughts, and feelings.
2. Write a letter to a character in the book, giving her or him advice.
3. Imagine that you are the author of the book, and describe what happened to one of the characters years before or years after the time of the book.
4. Write a short composition on one of the themes for the book. For example, if one of the themes is love, you might write a composition about love, using examples from the book.
5. Interview one of the characters or real-life people in the book about the story or about anything your imagination comes up with, asking questions in your voice and giving answers in the character's or person's voice.
6. Review the book. Give your opinions about it; cite examples and quotes from the book to support why you think it is an interesting book or not. Would you recommend it to a friend? Why or why not?
7. Write about the main problem or conflict in the book. Who is involved and what is it about?
8. Finish the sentence: "I love (hate) the way the author (or a character) . . ."
9. Design a final examination for your book. The exam must contain 5-10 T/F, 10 multiple choice, 5 short answer, and one essay. Supply a completed answer sheet.

Choice B:

NOTETAKING QUESTIONS
Entering Grades 8-12

Student name: _____ Grade level : _____

Title of Book: _____ Author: _____

*As you read the assigned summer reading, use the questions on this form to take notes that will provide you with a sense of direction, a focus to your reading. Handwrite your notes on separate sheets of paper. **It is not necessary to take more than two pages of notes.** You may refer to these handwritten notes during your test on summer reading. Your English teacher will collect the notes.*

1. List at least five important events of the story and briefly explain the importance of each.
2. List five conflicts or problems in the book.
3. For each major character, pick a quality that you associate with that character and an example that illustrates that quality.
4. Describe the setting(s) of the book.
5. Write two paragraphs about two different passages in the book that you thought were interesting or had meaning for you and explain why. Cite page numbers.
6. In paragraph form, describe something that you learned from the book. In other words, how did the author make you think; what ideas, themes issues did you consider. Did the novel teach you anything?