

TCS Middle School Summer Reading 2019

You will read 1 book and 3 newspaper articles and complete the assignments described below. These assignments are due the first day of school or may be turned in on Orientation Day.

THE MATERIALS

Choose a book: You will choose one book to read for the required summer reading, either fiction or non-fiction. You will choose your book from the list provided for your grade. You will need to purchase this book or borrow it from the public library.

Choose 3 Newspaper Articles: You will choose and read 3 newspaper articles. These must be from major news outlets, not from blogs or other private publications.

THE ASSIGNMENTS

Book Selection: An Old-Fashioned Book Report

1. Choose a book from the list for your grade and read it.
2. Complete the attached outline for the book report. (See Middle School Outline Template for Book Report)
3. Use the outline to write a fully developed report. Follow the structure of your outline, use correct grammar and mechanics, and include appropriate transitions. It should be typed or handwritten in blue or black ink.
4. This is the first writing we will see from you to mark the beginning of the new school year! Make it the best it can possibly be!
5. Be creative with the cover page of your report. Examples: a book "cover" that includes the title and author with an illustration; calligraphy with no illustration; an artistic symbol from the book.

Analysis of Newspaper Articles

1. Choose and read 3 newspaper articles. You may choose articles from any section of the newspaper that interests you! These articles must be from major news outlets, not from blogs or other private publications.
2. Complete the Newspaper Analysis sheet for each article. (See Middle School Template for Newspaper Analysis)
3. Attach the Analysis Sheet to the article. The articles may be cut out from a newspaper or printed from an online source.
4. To get a clearer picture of what is expected: find an example of this assignment on my webpage - a completed Newspaper Analysis Sheet with a newspaper article.

8th Grade Book List – Fiction

<i>A Bridge Too Far</i>	Cornelius Ryan
<i>A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court</i>	Mark Twain
<i>Across Five Aprils</i>	Irene Hunt
<i>Animal Farm</i>	George Orwell
<i>Anne of Green Gables – any of series</i>	L. M. Montgomery
<i>Caddie Woodlawn</i>	Carol Ryrie Brink
<i>Call of the Wild</i>	Jack London
<i>Ender's Game</i>	Orson Scott Card
<i>Fat Cat</i>	Robin Brande
<i>Flowers for Algernon</i>	Daniel Keyes
<i>Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows</i>	J.K. Rowlings
<i>Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince</i>	J.K. Rowlings
<i>Ivanhoe</i>	Sir Walter Scott
<i>Jane Eyre</i>	Charlotte Bronte
<i>Johnny Tremain</i>	Esther Forbes
<i>Lay Siege to Heaven: A Novel About Saint Catherine of Siena</i>	Louis de Wohl
<i>Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children</i>	Ransom Riggs
<i>Murder on the Orient Express</i>	Agatha Christie
<i>Oliver Twist</i>	Charles Dickens
<i>Pride and Prejudice</i>	Jane Austin
<i>Red Badge of Courage</i>	Stephen Crane
<i>Rival</i>	Sara Bennett Wealer
<i>Shooting Kabul</i>	N. H. Senzai
<i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i>	Mark Twain
<i>The Book Thief</i>	Markus Zusak
<i>The Count of Monte Cristo</i>	Alexandre Dumas
<i>The Fellowship of the Ring (Book 1)</i>	J. R. R. Tolkein
<i>The House of the Scorpion</i>	Nancy Farmer
<i>The Hunger Games – any of the Series</i>	Suzanne Collins
<i>The Longest Day</i>	Cornelius Ryan
<i>The Once and Future King</i>	T.H. White
<i>The Return of the King (Book 3)</i>	J. R. R. Tolkein
<i>The Scorpio Races</i>	Maggie Stiefvater
<i>The Story of Rolf and the Viking Bow</i>	Allen French
<i>The Two Towers (Book 2)</i>	J. R. R. Tolkein
<i>The Westing Game</i>	Ellen Raskin
<i>The Winged Watchman</i>	Hilda Van Stockum

8th Grade Book List – Non-Fiction

<i>Bomb: The Race to Build--and Steal--the World's Most Dangerous Weapon</i>	Steve Sheinkin
<i>Discovering Wes Moore</i>	Wes Moore
<i>Fields of Fury: The American Civil War</i>	James M. McPherson
<i>Flags of Our Fathers: A Young People's Edition. (abridged)</i>	James Bradley
<i>Gettysburg (Landmark Book)</i>	MacKinlay Kantor
<i>Good Brother, Bad Brother: The story of Edwin Booth and John Wilkes Booth</i>	James Cross Giblin
<i>I Am Malala</i>	Malala Yousefzai
<i>Joan of Arc</i>	Mark Twain
<i>Lafayette and the American Revolution</i>	Russell Freedman
<i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</i>	Frederick Douglass
<i>October Sky (The Rocket Boys)</i>	Homer Hickam
<i>Phineas Gage</i>	John Fleischman
<i>Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World: The Extraordinary True Story</i>	Jennifer Armstrong
<i>Shutting Out the Sky: Life in the Tenements of New York 1880-1924</i>	Deborah Hopkinson
<i>The American Revolution (Landmark Book)</i>	Bruce Bliven Jr
<i>The Chimpanzees I Love: Saving Their World and Ours</i>	Jane Goodall
<i>The Hiding Place</i>	Corrie Ten Boom
<i>Tracking Trash: Flotsam, Jetsam, and the Science of Ocean Motion</i>	Loree Griffin Burns

Name: _____ Date: _____

**Middle School Outline Template for
Book Report**

This template will map out the information you need to include in your book report. **As you read the book, fill in the sections for this template.** You will receive a grade for this template and for the report (see points next to each item). When you go to write your book report, be sure to include the information completed on the following pages. **The final report must be typed and double spaced. Be sure to hand into your Reading teacher both this template and the book report when you return to school.**

Introductory paragraph - What is the name and author of the book on which you are choosing to write? (2 pts.)

Book title : _____

Author: _____

Write at least 3 facts about the author (Where is he/she from? What kinds of books does he/she write? About what topics does he/she write?) (3 pts.)

- _____
- _____
- _____

2nd paragraph

Write 1-2 sentences that give a brief summary of the book (ex: *Loser* is the story of Donald Zinkoff, a student who struggles to stand strong even though he is constantly teased by his classmates.

- _____

Write 2-3 sentences that describe the setting of the book (Where and when does the story take place? How is the setting significant to the story?)(8 pts)

- _____
- _____
- _____

3rd paragraph

Write a topic sentence about the major characters of the book (ex: There are several main characters involved in the book *The Giver*) (8 pts.)

- _____

Describe the main characters in the book in the 2nd paragraph (you may have 2, 3, 4, 5 or more important characters). Include characteristics of the characters that are important to the story.

- _____

- _____

- _____

- _____

4th paragraph

Write a topic sentence about the main events that occur in the book (ex: There are several main events that happen in the story of *Hatchet*) (10 pts.)

- _____

Include the main events of the book in the 4th paragraph:

- First, _____

- Next, _____

- Then, _____

- Finally, _____

The 5th paragraph will discuss a section of the book you found to be most interesting. Start out this paragraph with the following quote.

“The part of the book I found to be most interesting is around page _____, when”
(jot down some of the interesting details here) (4 pts.)

Give at least 2 reasons why this part is interesting to you:

- _____

- _____

The 6th paragraph will tell why you liked or disliked the book

The topic sentence should include whether you **liked** or **disliked** the book.

- _____

Include 3-4 sentences that tell **why** you liked, or disliked or the book. (6 pts.)

- _____

- _____

- _____

Name: _____

Newspaper Article Analysis

Use this sheet to analyze your newspaper articles. You must complete 3 of these Newspaper Article Analyses and attach the Original Articles to each.

I. Headline (title) of Article: _____

Author: _____

Newspaper/Electronic Source: _____

Date article was published: _____ Section _____ (Ex: front page/sports/travel, etc.)

II. Read the first paragraph, also called the “lead.” Copy the lead here:

“

_____”

III. Read the rest of the article one time through quickly. Then reread it and using a pencil, underline the points you think are most important.

After you have marked up the article, look for the 5 “W’s” and one “H” that you find in the article and write them below:

Who? _____

What? _____

Where? _____

When? _____

Why? _____

How? _____

IV. Copy an interesting quote that the writer uses in his/her article:

V. In one or two sentences, write the main idea of the article **in your own words:**

