

OLS 2010 SUMMER READING – INCOMING 8TH GRADERS

REQUIRED READING:

- *Across Five Aprils* by Irene Hunt
 - *The Outsiders* by S. E. Hinton
 - *The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin
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BOOK REPORT FORMAT (for each required reading book):

I. **Design a cover page** depicting a scene or character from the story or illustrate the overall theme or mood of the story. [15 pts.]

II. On the next sheet(s) of paper, complete the following

[*TYPED: DOUBLE-SPACED, TIMES NEW ROMAN, FONT 12, BLACK PRINT*]:

A. List **five** (GRADE-LEVEL, CHALLENGING) **new vocabulary words** you have learned and their dictionary meanings. Write a sentence for each new word. [20 pts.]

B. **Summarize** the book in one paragraph (*minimum 10 sentences*). [20 pts.]

C. Pick **THREE** of the questions below and write a well-organized AND complete response of at least **one-half** to a **whole page** for **each** question. [30 pts.]

1) How is the title of the book significant? How does it relate to the story? Give specific examples to illustrate your point(s).

2) What do you think the author is saying about life, perfect or otherwise, in this book? Do you agree with the point(s) of view?

3) Choose a central character in the book: What would you identify as the major success or downfall of that character? What personality traits led to that success or downfall? What influenced this character as they were making decisions?

4) Compare/contrast *your* personality to that of one of the main characters. (How are you alike? How are you different?) *Be sure to give specific examples from the book with which you can relate.*

D. NEATNESS COUNTS!!!

Check for grammar, spelling, capitalization and punctuation. [15 pts.]

Additional Book Recommendations (Spare Time Books – Optional):

Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream by Tanya Lee Stone

Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli

October Sky by Homer Hickman

The Hobbit, J.R.R. Tolkien

The Hound of the Baskervilles by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd