

Independent Reading!



You are required to be reading an independent novel of your choice at all times. You will also be required to create an independent reading assignment (I.R.A.) based on your independent reading every month. Due dates for these projects will be given well in advance.

You must bring your book to class each Monday. In class independent reading time is worth 3 points a week. You will lose 1 point for not bringing your book to class. Additional points will be deducted for not reading during the allotted time. In addition to I.R.A. projects, you may also be assessed through reading log entries, book conferences, book chats, etc.

Independent Reading Assignment Format



- Type
- Double-Space
- Paragraph form
- Use the heading below at the top of all Independent Reading Assignments

Name:

Period:

Date:

I.R.A. activity #:

Title/Author:

Independent Reading Assignment Choices



DO NOT REPEAT ASSIGNMENTS. Branch out... Try something new... Be creative...

- * I encourage you to create your own unique ways to respond to the novels you are reading- just make sure that I approve your idea first!
 - * Any writing should follow standard conventions and be grammatically correct. Please type and double-space all assignments. Use paragraphs!! One-paragraph responses are not acceptable.
 - * Even though assignments are due once a month, feel free to prepare assignments at any time. If you are reading a part in a book that inspires a response, write it early!
1. Write about a memory or experience of your own that is similar to something you have read about in the book. (1 page)
 2. Write about a character you can identify with in the book and explain why. Give examples. (1 page)
 3. Choose 4-5 passages from the book that you found especially powerful, intriguing, important, etc. and explain why. (1 page of your own response, in addition to quotes)
 4. Become one of the characters in the book and write a diary entry from that character's point of view. Be sure to give events that took place and his/her reaction to those events. (1 page)
 5. Write a letter to one of the characters or the author of the book. Give your reactions to specific events that took place, ask logical questions, etc. (1 page)
 6. Write a poem based on the plot or a theme of the book.
 7. Illustrate a scene (with action!) that reflects a main event. Write a paragraph about it. Don't forget to title your illustration. Design is important, so be creative.
 8. Create a collage representing a main event, emotion, character, or theme of the book. Attach a paragraph explaining the significance of each part.
 9. Bring in a song that captures an important event, character trait, emotion, or theme from the book. Bring in a copy of the lyrics. Explain in detail how the song applies to your book (1 page)
 10. Compare a character from this book to another character from another book you have read. In what ways are they similar or different? Explain the connection. (1 page)
 11. Using the Internet or other resources from the library, conduct outside research on your book. You could choose to find out more about the author, the time period, a particular place in the book, an issue that is presented, etc. Write a 1 page summary of your findings and document your sources. (I would suggest photocopying them and attaching them to your summary.)
 12. What lessons can you learn from this book? Explain and support your ideas. (1 page)
 13. Pretend you are a character writing a letter to another character. What would that character say to the other? Refer to main events that took place in the book and the character's reactions to those events. (1 page)

14. Create a book cover (front and back!) for your book. Include an illustration, paragraph summary, reviews, etc.
15. Bring in a backpack or box filled with objects that represent a character. Explain each object and its significance to the character in attached paragraphs.
16. Rewrite a section of the book from another character's point of view. (1 page)
17. Create a map depicting the various settings of the book. Include a key or use labels.
18. Choose a famous person or someone you know who has a lot in common with a main character from your book. Explain the similarities and differences. (1 page)
19. Find a poem that relates to your book. Attach the poem and write specifics about how it relates to your book. (1 page)
20. Write an alternate ending to the story. (1 page)
21. Bring in a purse or wallet filled with objects that pertain to a character. Explain each object in attached paragraphs.
22. Make a poster to advertise the book. Use persuasive techniques to "sell" your novel. Design is very important, so be creative!
23. Create a timeline with important events and times. Design is very important, so be creative!
24. Draw a comic book page complete with the bubble-style conversations showing an incident in your book.
25. Use a journalistic style and write a news story about something that happened to one of the characters. (1 page)
26. Make a travel brochure inviting tourists to visit the setting of the book. What types of activities would there be for them to attend?
27. Interview a character from the book. Write at least 10 questions and answers that delve into a character's thoughts and feelings about his/her role in the story.
28. Imagine that you are the author of the book you have just read. Suddenly, the book becomes a best seller. Write a letter to a movie producer trying to get that person interested in making your book into a movie. Explain why the story, characters, conflicts, etc. would make a good film. Suggest a location and the actors to play various roles. Do not do this for books already made into movies, please. (1 page)
29. Select one character for the book you read who has the qualities of a hero or heroine. Give examples of these qualities and how they were displayed. (1 page)
30. You are a prosecuting attorney putting one of the characters on trial for a crime or misdeed. Prepare your case on paper. Provide all of your arguments, supporting them with facts from the book.
31. Respond to at least 5 of the following prompts: This book made me... wish that, realize that, decide that, wonder about, see that, believe that, feel that, hope that... Write a paragraph response to each of the 5 prompts you choose.