

ELA Summer Work

June 5, 2023

Dear Middle School Students,

You did it!! Congratulations on your hard work and effort throughout the past school year. In just a few days, you will begin summer vacation, a time to enjoy summer activities, a more relaxed schedule, and no uniforms!

Summer ELA Work is given to help you keep your reading and writing skills sharp and strong as you prepare for the new school year in the next grade. Athletes, musicians, and professional video gamers take the time to practice the fundamentals of their sport, instrument, or games on a regular basis. They practice to keep their skills fresh. During the upcoming summer months, you will compose six journal entries, which will be responses to one of the provided prompts and select a book from the provided list. After reading the book, you will write a summary. By writing and reading throughout these vacation months, you will keep your ELA skills active and ready for the start classes in September.

Please carefully read through the directions and expectations for the ELA summer work. I encourage you to complete the work a little bit at a time over the course of the summer. Set a goal to have some work completed by the end of each summer month. Please bring your booklet with your written work back to school in September. It will count as a portion of your ELA homework grade for the first trimester.

Have a great summer filled with amazing adventures!

Miss Mary Stuart Murray,
Middle School ELA Teacher



Written Responses: All written responses will be completed in the booklet provided or typed using the posted guidelines. Please bring your written responses to school when you return in September. Your Summer Work will be a part of your homework grade for the first trimester. Write your summary and six responses in the booklet provided for you following the directions posted inside the front cover. If you prefer to type your written work follow the guidelines, print your work and bring it with you when school resumes.

Assignment #1 - Read Book and Compose Summary

Directions: Select one book from the list below. After reading the book, include the following information in your 7-10 sentence summary.

- TAG (Title, Author, and Genre)
- Genre
- Setting
- Characters
- Plot
- Climax
- Resolution

Book List

- *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle
- Book from the Anne of Green Gables Series by Lucy Maud Montgomery
- Book from the Horatio Hornblower Series by C.S. Forester
- Book from the Wingfeather Saga Series by Andrew Peterson
- Book from the Wings of Fire Series by Tui T. Sutherland
- Book from the City Spies Series by James Ponti
- *I am Regina* by Sally M. Keehn
- *Johnny Tremain* by Ester Forbes
- *Lifeboat 12* by Susan Hood
- *Little Women* or *Little Men* by Louisa May Alcott
- *M.C. Higgins the Great* by Virginia Hamilton
- *My Friend Flicka* by Mary O'Hara
- *Refugee* by Alan Gratz
- *Shouting at the Rain* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt
- *Sign of the Beaver* by Elizabeth George Speare
- *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien
- *The Sword in the Stone* by T.H. White
- *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls

Assignment #2 - Journal Responses

Directions: Select six prompts from the list below and compose a response paragraph, that is 7-10 sentences long. In each response please check that the following elements are accurate and complete.

- Punctuation
- Capitalization
- Spelling
- Strong verbs
- Descriptive adjectives and adverbs

Writing Prompts

1. Create a fictional summer camp and describe all the unique activities and adventures campers would experience there.
2. Describe a person you visited this summer that you don't see on a regular basis.
3. Describe your favorite ice cream flavor and where the best ice cream spot is.
4. Describe your favorite summer activity.
5. Do you like fireworks? Why or why not? Describe a time you watched fireworks this summer.
6. Flag Day is June 14. What does the American flag mean to you?
7. If you could fly anywhere, where would you go?
8. If you could have any summer job, what would it be and why?
9. If you could talk to animals, which creatures would you talk to? Write a dialogue between you and an animal.
10. Story Starter: My kingdom of sand where I spend my days...
11. Story starter: One day, I ate a watermelon seed and...
12. Story starter: One day a treasure map washed ashore so I
13. What sights, sounds, and smells remind you of summertime?
14. Would you rather ride a roller coaster or paddle a canoe? Explain.
15. Would you rather sleep in a hotel room, or in a tent under the stars? Explain.
16. Write about a trip that you took.
17. Write a day in the life story about being a shark.
18. Write a persuasive letter to your parents, trying to convince them to take a family road trip to a destination of your choice. Explain why it would be a memorable experience.
19. Write a poem that captures the essence of a summer thunderstorm. Describe the sights, sounds, and emotions it evokes.
20. Write instructions on how to do a summer activity that you enjoy.