

## English 10 Summer Reading Project

For the Summer Reading book you choose to read over the summer, assemble a project with the following components:  
(Keep in mind: Responses should be detailed. You are proving you have read the book! A few sentences will not be sufficient.)

Your Name, Book Title, and Author

- 1) Explain the title of the book. Does it fit the book? Why or why not? (10 pts.)
- 2) What is the point of view of the book? How did the author use this particular point of view to his/her advantage when writing the story? (10 pts.)  
**REMINDER:** The point of view of the book is NOT the message of the book. Point of view is the standpoint from which the story is told: first-person, second-person, third-person omniscient, third-person limited, etc.
- 3) If I could be any character in my chosen book, I would be \_\_\_\_\_ because... (10 pts.)
- 4) If you could change one thing about the book, what would you change and why? How would this change the effectiveness of the book's message? (10 pts.)
- 5) What is one major theme or symbol in the book? Explain its significance to the book and your life. (10 pts.)  
**REMINDER:** A theme of a book is the central message of a work of literature and is often expressed as a general statement about life. Themes are expressed in complete sentences. For example, the topic of a work might be love; the theme would be what the writer says about love, that it is painful or wonderful or both, for example. A symbol in a book is any object, person, place, or experience that exists on a literal level but also represents, or stands for, something else, usually something abstract.
- 6) Find information about the author of your book.\* What in his/her past influenced the writing of this book? What else has he/she written that you would be interested in reading and why? (10 pts.)
- 7) Make a visual representation of the setting of the book. You may choose to draw, paint or construct the setting in the form of a diorama. (15 pts.)  
**REMINDER:** The setting of a book is the time and place in which the events of a literary work occur. A diorama is a three-dimensional miniature model, often constructed in a shoebox.
- 8) Complete the following book-specific research for the book you choose to read this summer.\* (25 pts.) DO ONLY THE RESEARCH FOR THE BOOK YOU CHOOSE TO READ! The assignments for each individual book are on the next page.
  - The Ransom of Mercy Carter – This book is based on a real-life event that happened in 1704 in Deerfield, Massachusetts. Research what happened when the Mohawk Indians attacked the Puritan settlers. Find out more information on what happened and why it happened.
  - Copper Sun – As part of her research to write this book, the author Sharon Draper actually visited the slave castles in Ghana. Research the history of slavery in the United States. Look up the Triangle Trade and find out why selling human beings was one of the most profitable business ventures. (<http://sharondraper.com>)
  - Day of Tears – This novel in dialogue is based on a real-life event, the largest slave auction in history. Research this event, which was called the Weeping Time, and find out more about what happened and why.
  - Journey into Mohawk Country – This graphic novel is based on the 1634 journal of a Dutch trader in North America. Research the life of Harmen Meyndertsz van den Bogaert and trace his journey through old New York into Mohawk territory.

**\*Note: You must include sources for your research in #8 as well as #6. Failure to do so will result in 0 points for that section.**

**REMINDER:** Sources are not search engines (Yahoo!, Google, Ask.com, etc.). If your information is found on the Internet, you must give the exact web address of your source.

For example, information can be found at <http://www.usma.edu/about.asp> about West Point Military Academy. If I choose to use information from that page for my project, I must include <http://www.usma.edu/about.asp> as one of my sources, **not** ask.com, which is the search engine I used to find that webpage.