

English 11
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.)
If you choose to read one of the *Letters* books, explain the subtitles of the book, *DeFINE Your Destiny* or *MANifest Your Destiny*.
- 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.)
If you choose to read one of the *Letters* books, complete the following statement:
The part/chapter I learned the most from/identified with the most was _____ because...
- 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!**
 - Ender's Game – Research one of the major military academies in the United States (i.e. naval academy in Annapolis, West Point, etc.). What programs are offered? What skills do students learn there? Compare/contrast with the two “schools” Ender attended? Which school would you rather attend and why?
 - Monster – Do some research about young people (especially young African American men) in the penal system. What are some trends you notice? Does this book follow those trends? What do you think we can do to avoid situations like the one in the book?
 - The House on Mango Street – Choose at least five character names from the book. Research the meanings of those names. Explain why you think the names fit these characters or not. Research the meaning of your own name as well. Does it fit your personality? Why or why not?
 - Letters to a Young Brother or Letters to a Young Sister – Choose three people Hill Harper chooses to help answer the Young Brother's/Sister's questions about life. Research those people. Explain why Harper uses each person to answer those particular questions. What makes him/her an expert on that particular topic? Do you think he/she is the right person to answer that question? Why or why not?

***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.