

# SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT 2014-2015

## HMS GRADE 7 LANGUAGE ARTS

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Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

This summer all Hackensack students entering grades 7-12 are required to complete a summer reading assignment. Research indicates that summer reading improves academic performance. The goal of this assignment is to help students prepare for rigorous academic challenges of 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

Students should read *at least* one new book and then complete the attached assignment. Students should follow the rules of formal writing (correct grammar, complete sentences, proper punctuation, and proper capitalization). **A cover page stating the student's full name, book title, author, and genre, is also required.**

This assignment will be graded and will count towards students' Marking Period 1 Grade. The Summer Reading Assignment is **due Monday, September 15, 2014.**

Students who do not complete the assignment by the due date or who are new to the Hackensack School District will be required to read and use a short text (assigned by their language arts teacher) to complete the Summer Reading Assignment.

Have a wonderful summer! We appreciate your support!

*HMS Grade 7 Language Arts Department*



## **Choose this essay question if your book is FICTION**

***(a made-up story with characters, setting, and plot details):***

Authors incorporate different types of **conflicts** in their stories. These **conflicts** drive the action and create suspense in the novel. They can be internal (character vs. self) or external (character vs. character, character vs. society, character vs. nature, character vs. technology).

Consider one internal conflict **or** one external conflict that the main character in the novel had to face.

Write an essay that explains this conflict, and analyzes how the main character dealt with the conflict. Do you think he/she handled the conflict successfully or unsuccessfully? Discuss whether or not the conflict presented in the novel is realistic (a problem that exists in the real world).

Develop your essay by providing textual evidence to support your analysis and understanding. Be sure to follow the conventions of standard English.

## **Choose this essay question if your book is NONFICTION** ***(factual; based on real events, people, or places):***

The **main idea** is the overall point of a text or the primary message expressed by the author. The **main idea** or central purpose may be stated directly in the book or it may be hinted at, leaving you, the reader, to determine it.

Consider one of the main ideas presented in the book.

Write an essay that identifies the main idea and use at least two facts/details from the book to explain it. In your essay, discuss how reading this nonfiction book affected you or changed your understanding of the topic.

Develop your essay by providing textual evidence to support your analysis and understanding. Be sure to follow the conventions of standard English.