

The Petrides School

Educational Excellence in the 21st Century
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Incoming 8th Grade Summer Reading & Writing Assignment

1. Reading:

Your 8th-grade summer reading assignment is an introduction to one of our units on identity and empathy. Students are required to read one novel from the list below and may read another book for extra credit. You will choose one book from the required reading list and answer the questions.

Required Reading List: Choose **ONE** of the following:

- *Amina's Voice* by Hena Khan [PDF Link](#)
- *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas [PDF Link](#)
- *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie [PDF Link](#)

*You can purchase your own copy of the book through Amazon or read it from the PDF link above. This assignment will be counted towards your 1st marking period average as a “project” grade.

DUE SEPTEMBER 30, 2025.

*Link for tips to help you with reading, annotating, and answering the comprehension questions: [Reading Tips](#)

2. Writing: 5 Journal Entries - see below for full instructions

This assignment will be counted towards your 1st marking period average as a “writing” grade.

DUE SEPTEMBER 30, 2025.

*****Extra Credit - Reading Log and Response - book of your choice*****

Rubric:

1- Far below Standards	2- Approaches Standards	3- Meets Standards	4- Exceeds Standards
Demonstrates little understanding of the text with very little detail.	Demonstrates a literal explanation of the text. No inferences are being made.	Explanations show some analysis of the text. There are literal and inferential details.	Explanations show deeper thinking (analysis of text and inferences is being made.)
Demonstrates an attempt to use some textual evidence, but may be invalid or irrelevant.	Some responses contain relevant textual evidence.	Most responses contain relevant textual evidence.	Each response contains relevant textual evidence.
Included 6 or fewer quotes that exhibit some understanding of the text.	Included 7-9 quotes that exhibit a good understanding of the text.	Included 10-12 strong quotes that exhibit a good understanding of the whole text.	Included more than 12 strong quotes that exhibit a strong understanding of the whole text.
Demonstrates imprecise or below-grade-level vocabulary.	Uses some grade-appropriate vocabulary.	Uses grade-appropriate vocabulary.	Uses grade-appropriate vocabulary & sophisticated language.
Demonstrate a lack of command of conventions, with frequent errors that hinder comprehension.	Demonstrate emerging command of conventions, with some errors that may hinder comprehension.	Demonstrate grade-appropriate command of conventions, with occasional errors that do not hinder comprehension.	Demonstrate grade-appropriate command of conventions, with few errors.

Name: _____

Mandatory Summer Reading Assignment

Directions: Fill in the following boxes with text details and inferences from the book you chose after you completed the reading. You can handwrite if needed. Use extra paper if you need more space.

Which book title did you choose?

Write a short response including an explanation and details for the following:

- *Describe the character traits of the main character. (Establish his/her age, family background, social class & status)*
- *What was the conflict they faced?*
- *How did they overcome their adversity?*

Directions: Fill in the following boxes with text details and inferences from the book while you are reading.

Step 1: While reading, find quotes that stand out to you as being important. Use the analysis questions to help guide your thinking and choice of quotes.

Step 2: When you find an important quote, stop, write down the page number and the direct quote that you want to analyze in Columns 1 and 2 in the graphic organizer.

Step 3: You should answer at least one or two of the analysis questions in the 3rd column to explain why you chose this quote.

<u>Pg #</u>	<u>Quotation:</u> (Quote directly from the book)	<u>Analysis:</u> What strikes you about this? What was your first thought when you read this? What does this passage/idea make you think of or remember? Do you want to challenge or qualify this author's claim? Does something confuse you or lead to further questions? How do you feel about this?
EXAMPLE: Pg. 22	<u>EXAMPLE:</u> "The dream took place in the courtroom. I was trying to ask questions and nobody could hear me. I was shouting and shouting but everyone went about their business as if I wasn't there." - Steve	<u>EXAMPLE:</u> While Steve was in prison, he had many nightmares. This dream portrays his frightening feelings throughout the court proceedings. Steve is unable to explain his story due to the justice system at the time. He had to give up control and rely on O'Brien to tell what happened. Steve feels trapped in his own thoughts, which further aggravates his feeling of separation.

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Mandatory Summer Writing Assignment

Task: Submit 5 journal entries!

- These journal entries can be creative writing or real-life experiences you have faced.
- Each journal entry should be approximately 250-300 words in length.
- Please **type** the journal entries in this document or create a separate document to be uploaded to Google Classroom in **September**.
- There are 5 boxes for each journal entry. Please write **one** journal entry in each box.
- Feel free to incorporate creative writing techniques, such as dialogue, descriptive language, or storytelling elements, to make your entries more engaging and vivid.
- Your journal entries should be well-organized, with proper grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

Writing Prompt Suggestions:

1. You wake up one morning to find that you have switched bodies with your pet. Describe your day navigating the world from this new perspective.
2. A mysterious door appears in your home that wasn't there before. When you open it, you discover a portal to another world. What does this new world look like and what adventures await you there?
3. You come across an old diary from someone who lived 100 years ago. As you read the entries, you realize they are describing events that are happening in the present day. How do you react and what do you do with this knowledge?
4. You have the ability to time travel, but you can only go back or forward one day at a time. How would you use this power and what consequences might arise from altering the timeline in small increments?
5. While exploring an abandoned building, you stumble upon a strange artifact that grants you a superpower when you touch it. What is the superpower and how does it change your life?

Rubric:

	1 - Far Below Standards	2- Approaches Standards	3- Meets Standards	4- Exceeds Standards
Content and Development (40%)	<p>The journal entry does not adequately address the assigned topic or experience.</p> <p>It lacks development, creative elements, and fails to engage the reader.</p>	<p>The journal entry partially addresses the assigned topic or experience but lacks sufficient development or creative elements. The narrative may be somewhat disjointed or lacking in detail.</p>	<p>The journal entry is developed and addresses the assigned topic or experience. It incorporates some creative writing techniques, but may lack depth or vivid details in certain areas.</p>	<p>The journal entry is well-developed, engaging, and effectively captures the assigned topic or experience. It demonstrates a clear understanding of the prompt and incorporates creative writing techniques to enhance the narrative.</p>
Organization and Structure (25%)	<p>The journal entry is disorganized and lacks coherence, making it challenging to understand the narrative.</p>	<p>The journal entry lacks clear organization or structure, making it difficult to follow the narrative.</p>	<p>The journal entry is generally well-organized, but may have minor issues with flow or transitions.</p>	<p>The journal entry is well-organized, with a clear beginning, middle, and end. The narrative flows smoothly, and transitions are effective.</p>
Language and Conventions (25%)	<p>The journal entry contains numerous errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation, making it difficult to understand the intended meaning. The entry does not meet the minimum word count.</p>	<p>The journal entry contains several errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation, which may interfere with the clarity of the writing. The entry is significantly shorter than specified word count.</p>	<p>The journal entry generally follows conventions of grammar, spelling, and punctuation, but may have a few minor errors. The word count is slightly out of range.</p>	<p>The journal entry demonstrates a strong command of language, with proper grammar, spelling, and punctuation. The writing is clear, concise, and within the word count limit.</p>
Creativity & Engagement (10%)	<p>The journal entry lacks creativity and fails to engage the reader.</p>	<p>The journal entry shows some attempt at creativity but fails to fully engage the reader or lacks originality.</p>	<p>The journal entry incorporates creative elements and engages the reader, but may lack some depth or originality.</p>	<p>The journal entry demonstrates creativity and effectively engages the reader through vivid descriptions, compelling dialogue, or unique storytelling elements.</p>

You can handwrite if needed. Use extra paper if you need more space.

1.

Title:

2.

Title:

3.

Title:

4.

Title:

5.

Title:

1. ***Write a summary of your reading. Include the following:***
 - a. Title and author
 - b. Most important characters and details.
 - c. What did you like most or least about the book?
 - d. Did this book connect with you or impact your thinking in any way?
2. ***Write the summary below:***

[illegible]

