Dear Student,

It has been proven that reading during the vacation months contributes significantly to a student’s academic growth and lifelong reading pleasure. Summer is a great time to diversify your reading and explore different genres. During your summer break, you are required to complete either the fiction or non-fiction assignment.

If you choose the fiction option, you will need to find and read **one full-length book**. The public library or a local bookstore is a good place to find a book of interest for your summer reading. There are **two** requirements for your book selection: (1) It cannot be a book previously read for school. (2) It must be an appropriate level of difficulty for you. Attached are **three** sheets that you need to complete before, during, and after you complete your book. These assignments must be turned in to your English teacher in September.

If you choose the non-fiction option, you will need to find and read **eight non-fiction articles**. These can be either hard copies of **any newspaper/periodical** that is available in the public library daily, or you may choose to access it digitally. There is enough free content online to satisfy this assignment, so you do not need to purchase a subscription to any newspaper/periodical. There are **two** requirements for your article selection: (1) They must be full length articles. (2) They must have a publishing date between June and September of 2019. Attached are **three** sheets that you need to complete before, during, and after you complete your reading. These assignments must be turned in to your English teacher in September.

**Goals for Summer Reading**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>At Home</th>
<th>In School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Foster a love of reading</td>
<td>• Enhance a sense of community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Advance literacy by engaging in reading activities</td>
<td>• Provide a common reading experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Increase reading through self-selected, voluntary reading</td>
<td>• Stimulate discussion and critical thinking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Managing Your Reading**

- Try to read every day. Find a time and place that is comfortable for you.
- Have a purpose for reading. Is there a question you have about the book? Are you in the middle of the book and wondering about a character’s choices or motivations? Are you wondering where the author is taking the story? Are you looking for something to connect to or relate to your own life? Each time you read, read with purpose.
- Discuss what you are reading with someone else - a friend, a parent, a sibling, a camp counselor, the librarian, or the bookstore clerk to name a few. Talking about a book helps you understand it better and motivates you to go back and read more.
- Does the book remind you of something you read before? Are you making a text-to-text connection? Try to find that other text (it can be another book, a movie, a newspaper or a magazine article, a website) and revisit it to strengthen the connection. It may also help you understand and appreciate your main text even more.
- Reading is a way to communicate. What message is the author trying to share with you, the reader? How will what you read impact your own life? Reflect on these questions as you read.
9th Grade
Part 1: Choosing A Book

Taking Inventory
Answer the following questions based on your reading history.

1. Do you like to read for fun?
2. What is the name of your favorite book?
3. Do you have a favorite author? If so, who is it?
4. How often do you visit the public library?

The Power of Suggestion
Often our favorite books can come at the recommendation of someone who knows our interests. Ask four people (e.g. parent, friend, teacher, librarian, etc.) to recommend an age appropriate book. In the boxes provided, write down the person's name who recommended the book, the title, the author, and the genre.

Rank the topics in order from your favorite (#1) to least favorite (#12).

- mystery
- romance
- science fiction
- history
- sports
- memoir / bio
- comedy
- thriller
- fantasy
- adventure
- graphic novel
- other

<p>| | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>name:</td>
<td>name:</td>
<td>name:</td>
<td>name:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>title:</td>
<td>title:</td>
<td>title:</td>
<td>title:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>author:</td>
<td>author:</td>
<td>author:</td>
<td>author:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>genre:</td>
<td>genre:</td>
<td>genre:</td>
<td>genre:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ONCE YOU HAVE CHOSEN A BOOK, ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. Which book did you select to read for the summer reading assignment (it does not have to be one of those recommended)?

2. Explain in 5-7 sentences why you settled on this book out of all of the thousands of books out there. Please include references to the book's title, genre, and length. Also, include details from the front and back cover that caught your attention and convinced you to open it up.

3. What are some reasons you might not finish a book you start reading? Is there anything that may get in the way of your reading this book this summer?
Directions
There are five prompts on the following pages. For each of them, complete the following two steps:

1. Write the Excerpt (with page number)
   This should be taken directly from the text without altering any of the words. Use an ellipses (...) if the passage is too long to fit in the box.

2. Explain your choice
   Why did you choose this passage to respond to this prompt? How does it satisfy the prompt?
Prompt #1: Choose a character, and explain why you would or would not want to have him/her as a friend.

Prompt #2: Prove that the setting of the book matters.
Prompt #3: Find an event in the book created conflict.

Prompt #4: Tell what have you learned from reading this book.
Prompt #5: Choose a passage that connects to your personal life.
Directions

After you have finished reading your book, choose one of the following prompts and write an informal response.

This response should be 3-5 paragraphs in length. It should include specific references and details from the text you have read. It will be graded based on your ideas, connections, and use of textual evidence.

A. Making a Recommendation

Identify and discuss three key points and/or lessons from the book that would support a recommendation of the book to another student. In other words, explain why someone else would benefit from reading this book.

B. Making Connections

How does this book compare/contrast to something else you have read? Make specific connections to both texts in your response.
Choosing Articles

Part 1

Taking Inventory
Answer the following questions based on your reading history.

1. Do you like to keep up on current events? Why or why not?

2. What magazine(s) do you read?

3. Do you read a newspaper? Which part(s)?

4. Have you been following any current issues? Which ones most interest you?

5. How often do you visit the public library?

The Importance of Print Media
Do some research to determine the importance of print media in our society. Write down four (4) reasons, one in each box, for why we should all read reputable newspapers.

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 

Rank the topics in order from your favorite (#1) to least favorite (#12).

- politics
- travel
- world news
- real estate
- sports
- food
- fashion / style
- arts / design
- business
- education
- health
- science
- other
DIRECTIONS:

After perusing a few periodicals, try to determine which issues or topics are most important to you. Then, choose two of these topics to follow throughout the summer. Some hot topics right now include __________________. For each of these topics, please answer the following questions:

Topic One: _____________________________________________

1. Why does this topic interest you? Why do you think it is so important and/or so popular?

2. Before reading about this topic this summer, write down your thoughts about the subject. What do you think you already know about it?

Topic Two: _____________________________________________

1. Why does this topic interest you? Why do you think it is so important and/or so popular?

2. Before reading about this topic this summer, write down your thoughts about the subject. What do you think you already know about it?
Responding to Articles
Part 2

Directions

Find and read four (4) non-fiction articles on each of your chosen topics. (You will read eight (8) articles in total.) For each article, answer the questions below on a separate piece of paper.

1. Write down the name of the article, the author, and the date it was published.

2. What is the author’s goal in writing the article? Consider his/her intended audience in your response.

3. What useful information does this text provide? In other words, what did you learn from reading the article?

4. Choose one quotation from the article that you think best captures the author’s purpose. Write down the quotation and explain what it tells the reader.

5. What part of the article confused you? What questions do you still have about this topic?

Think about what you read in order to:

Make Sense of the Text

Confirm or Challenge Presumptions

Deepen Understanding
Reflecting

Part 3

Directions

After you have finished reading the eight articles, choose one of your topics and write an informal response based on that topic.

This response should be 3-5 paragraphs in length. It should include specific references and details from the four articles you have read. It will be graded based on your ideas, connections, and use of textual evidence.

Discuss the impact reading these articles has had on your understanding of this topic. You must reference each article at least once in your response. Include in your response answers to the following questions:

1. How does what you read fit in with what you already knew (thought you knew) about this topic?

2. How is your perspective similar or different than the author’s perspective?

3. What have you experienced in your life that makes you understand this topic?

4. How do the articles remind you of other texts you have read?

5. What do you still want to learn about this topic?