

Upper Intermediate – 6th Grade 2019 Summer Reading Assignment

Dear Parents:

Select **two** books from the summer reading list. After you have finished each book, type a well-written book report using the formatting below. All work is due in the fall.

London, Jack – *Call of the Wild*
Stead, Rebecca – *When You Reach Me*
Smith, Betty – *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*
Avi – *Crispin: The Cross of Lead*
Korman, Gordon – *Ungifted*
Hiaasen, Carl - *Hoot*

Introductory Paragraph – Explain the genre, length, and author of the book, and why you chose to read this particular book.

Example: This month I read the book, *The Bully*, by Paul Langan. It is a realistic fiction novel that is 190 pages long. I chose to read this book because I love this author, and this is one of the Bluford Series that I haven't read.

Setting – One well-developed paragraph (6-8 sentences) explaining the setting, including where and when the book takes place, in detail, and why the setting is important to the action and characters.

Example: This story mostly takes place in California. It is modern, but does not give a specific date. Most of the story seems to take place at Bluford High School, and around Darrell's neighborhood. This setting is important because most of the conflict involves bullying at or around this high school and the neighborhood the protagonist lives in.

Protagonist – One well-developed paragraph (8-10 sentences) explaining at length the protagonist, or main character in the book, complete with description of what they think, say and do.

Example: The main character, or protagonist, is Darrell Mercer. Darrell is a new freshman at Bluford High School who misses his old school and neighborhood in Philadelphia. He is physically small and weak. Also, he has a hard time standing up for himself because of his size, and because he lacks self-confidence. He doesn't have many friends, and it takes him awhile to warm up to others.

Antagonist – One well-developed paragraph (8-10 sentences) explaining at length the antagonist, or negative force in the book, complete with descriptions of what they think, say and do.

Example: The antagonist in this book is mainly the bully, Tyre. He picks on Darrell almost as soon as he comes to the neighborhood. He makes Darrell pay him each week, and threatens to beat him up if he doesn't pay. He makes Darrell's life miserable at school and around the neighborhood.

Conflict – One well developed paragraph (8-10 sentences) that explains the main conflict(s) of the novel, and identifies them as man vs. man, man vs. society, man vs. nature, man vs. self, etc. Also explain how you know it is the main conflict.

Example: There are really two main conflicts in this book. The first one is an external conflict between Tyre and Darrell, which is a person vs. person conflict. Tyre is constantly bullying Darrell and threatening him physically. The other main conflict is an internal conflict in Darrell's own mind as he tries to find inner strength and stand up for himself. He has an internal conflict because of his self-esteem about his size, and because he's the new kid in school.

Themes / Lessons – One well developed paragraph (5-6 sentences) that tells about the lesson in the novel. What does the author want us to learn from the story? How does the theme relate to the story?

Example: The theme of *The Bully* is that the most important kind of strength is inner strength. Once Darrell finds his inner strength he is able to overcome both of his conflicts. By finding his inner strength he is able to finally confront both Tyre and his uncle, and to feel more positive about moving to a new school and meeting new people.

Conclusion – One well developed paragraph (5-6 sentences) that rates the book according to you, on a “5-star” scale. (5 being the highest) Tell why you enjoyed or didn’t enjoy the book, and also if you would recommend the book to another student, and what audience will be most appreciative of the book.

Example: I would give *The Bully* 5 stars because I think all students can relate to being bullied at school. I think high school students would be the best audience for this book because the main character is a high school student, and there are some scenes with violence, which might not make it appropriate for younger audiences. Overall, *The Bully* is a great story with a strong lesson to be learned.

Sincerely,
Lara Croy
Upper Intermediate

