



Rising Eighth Grade Summer Reading

You are required to read two books, *The Silver Chair* by C. S. Lewis and a book of your choosing from the provided 7th and 8th Grade Recommended Reading List. **These assignments will be due on the first day of English class.**

Assignment I:

Read *The Silver Chair* by C. S. Lewis. **For each chapter**, please neatly handwrite the following items in **one document**.

1. List the main plot points in the chapter. You should have at least 4 – 5 actions, decisions, or events per chapter. Be as specific as you can and use complete sentences.
2. List at least 2 characters from each chapter and include at least 2 characteristics you notice about them. **Please provide page numbers and a quote from the text showing where you found these in your copy of the book.** I recommend marking in your book as you read. It will make the assignment easier!

Here is an example:

Chapter 1:

1. A young girl named Jill Scrubb is being bullied at school, and her friend Eustace tells her of his adventures in another world called Narnia as she is hiding behind the gym.
2. The children call on Aslan to allow them to go to Narnia together, and a door opens for them in the garden wall.
3. They find themselves at the top of a cliff, and Jill foolishly rushes to the edge.
4. Eustace tries to keep Jill from falling but slips and falls over the edge!
5. Before she has time to realize what happened, Jill notices an enormous lion behind her, and he is blowing something through the air far away from Jill.

Jill Pole: Cautious “Can we get back? Is it safe?” (page 9)

Stubborn “She was rather annoyed with Scrubb for pulling her back” (page 10)

Eustace Scrubb: kind “Scrubb ... very sensibly offered her a peppermint” (page 3)

Changed “I was a different chap then!” (page 3)

I recommend making these notes right after you have read each chapter. I also recommend you do not wait until the last minute to complete this assignment!

Please bring your copy of the book and your notes on the first day of class for a completion grade.

You will be allowed to use your notes for a comprehension quiz, so I recommended they be thorough!



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Assignment II:

For the book you choose, please write a 5-paragraph essay describing one character in the story. The information in the paper will be the basis for a brief presentation you will give “as” your character during the first week of school.

Paragraph I: Begin your essay with a brief introduction to the book and your character. This should include some general background information that leads directly to your thesis statement. The last sentence of your first paragraph should be the thesis statement which makes a claim about your character and three qualities or actions that exemplify your position. **Please use the following template for your thesis statement: “Sam is a true friend to Frodo [claim] because he exemplifies [character quality 1], [character quality 2], and [character quality 3].”**

Paragraph II – IV: Each body paragraph should explore one character quality that you see in your character based on the reading. **These paragraphs should follow the order of the characteristics you list in your thesis statement!** As you discuss each character quality, provide specific examples from the book where the character demonstrates it. Each body paragraph should also include one direct quotation from the text.

Paragraph V: Conclude the essay by restating your thesis summarizing your ideas.

Your essay should be typed (double-spaced, point 12 font size, using Times New Roman font), and each paragraph should consist of 5 – 7 sentences. Please be attentive to proper sentence structure, grammar, punctuation, and spelling.

Please bring a copy of your book (or a receipt from the library to prove you borrowed it) on the first day of class to receive full credit. We will begin character presentations on the second day of school. Props or costumes are not required but can earn additional credit.

If you have questions about the summer assignments, please email Mr. Smith at tsmith@tcsopelika.org.