



Dear Rising Seventh Grade Students,

Welcome to junior high! During the summer, you should take advantage of the time to find new authors and stories to take you on adventures, to show you different perspectives, and to learn more about yourselves.

You have two books to read and assignments to complete for each. You are welcome to email me if you have any questions, but you will have time once school begins to ask questions and see examples. NO WORK will be submitted before school starts.

See you in August!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Melissa Priola  
[mpriola@stlouismemphis.org](mailto:mpriola@stlouismemphis.org)

**Each student will be required to read two books for Summer Reading.**

**The projects will NOT be due the first week of school, so you will have time to ask questions.**

### **Required Reading**

#### **1. THE GIVER by Lois Lowry**

A copy will be given to each student by the school.

Please read the novel and complete the journal prompts below as you read. You may use a spiral notebook, journal, or plain notebook paper (stapled) to answer the questions. Please do not use a website, AI tool, or other person to respond. I want to see your ideas and reactions.

Please write in PEN and write in complete sentences. Some questions can be answered in 1-2 sentences and some may need a few more. Please write the chapter headings and number your responses.

In August, we will use this as our first novel and walk through it again as a class and with some individual work. You will have a TEST over the book in late August/ early September.

ALL summer reading and projects will be due around August 20. You will have plenty of time to ask questions once school starts. Please do not turn anything in before the first day of school!

## **The Giver Response Journal Prompts**

### **Chapters 1-5**

- 1) The best memory I have with my family is....
- 2) My ideas of a perfect community are....
- 3) If I lived in a “controlled community” like Jonas, I would....
- 4) There are some references to “release” in this first section. What do you think it means at this point in your reading?
- 5) Compare the ways the Old are treated in the community with the way older people are regarded in our society.

### **Chapters 6 – 10**

- 1) The chief elder describes the life of children to age Twelve. Compare how the life and experiences of young children in the community are different from the experiences you have had.
- 2) List the qualities Jonas has that qualify him to be the next Receiver.
- 3) If you could only have three books like each dwelling in the community, what three books would they be and explain?

### **Chapters 11-15**

- 1) Write your reactions to the difference between “honor and power” in the community as given by the Giver.
- 2) A memory I would like to forget is....
- 3) Comment on the statement that Jonas made, “If everything’s the same, then there aren't any choices!”
- 4) How would you feel if you were chosen as the Receiver?
- 5) Chapter 15 is the shortest chapter in the book but may be the most powerful experience for both Jonas and the reader. Comment on what happens in this chapter and your reaction to it.

### **Chapters 16 – 23**

- 1) Discuss Jonas’ reaction to the experience of love.
- 2) What happened when Jonas asked his parents about love?
- 3) Jonas and the elder have a plan that, if it fails, would probably result in Jonas being killed. What is Jonas’ motivation for attempting the plan anyway?
- 4) Do you think the story has a happy or sad ending? Explain your response well.

### **GENERAL QUESTIONS FOR THE WHOLE NOVEL:**

1. What surprised you the most?
2. Which character did you enjoy the LEAST and why?
3. What 1 incident or scene made the most impact on you and explain well.

## 2. Choose ONE book from the following list:

**PLEASE pick a book you haven't read before! Find an author, style, genre, or topic that interests you.**

- *Any novel by Tim Green*
- *Any novel by Carl Deuker*
- *Any novel by Roland Smith*
- *Any novel by Mike Lupica*
- *Any novel by Alan Gratz*
- *Any novel by Ruta Sepetys*
- *Any of the Theodore Boone series*
- *Any book from the Hunger Game series*
- *The Honest Truth by Dan Gemeinhart*
- *Notes from the Dog by Gary Paulsen*
- *Tangerine by Edward Bloor*
- *When Zachary Beaver Came to Town by Kimberly Willis Holt*
- *As Brave as You by Jason Reynolds*
- *Falling Over Sideways by Jordan Sonneblick*
- *The Seven Wonders of Sassafras Springs by Birney*
- *Fever 1793 by Laurie Halse Anderson*
- *Jacob Have I Loved by Katherine Paterson*
- *A Wrinkle in Time by M. L'Engle*
- *Number the Stars by Lois Lowry*
- *Boys Without Names by Kashmira Sheth*
- *Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse*
- *Save Me a Seat by Sarah Weeks*
- *Scar Island by Dan Gemeinhart*
- *The Warden's Daughter by Jerry Spinelli*
- *Touching Spirit Bear by Ben Mikaelson*
- *Heart of a Champion by Carl Deuker*
- *Rebound by Kwame Alexander*
- *Little Women by Louisa May Alcott*
- *One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia*
- *The Grimm Legacy by Polly Shulman*
- *The Great Greene Heist by Johnson*

**For the second book that you read this summer, you will create a one pager. This will be due around August 20.**

**Neatness, creativity, and writing are all important! Use a piece of copy paper and FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS below!**

# One-Pager Final Project

A one-pager is an analytical (organized and detailed), creative, and written response to a novel that **completely fills one side** of a piece of paper. **For your one-pager, you'll want to focus on the big ideas from the novel including theme, symbolism, and conflict, as well as literary devices and elements.**

## Required Details

1. Fill the entire page with color and text. There should not be any blank, white space. (a white background against text is okay.) **WRITE IT. No typing.**
2. Clearly label each element of your one-pager.
3. Include the title, author, and genre on the paper. You should try to incorporate these elements **as creatively as possible.**
4. Complete the grid by connecting 3 story elements together (and these 3 will be on the paper as well)

**DUE the week of August 20. MAKE SURE YOU FOLLOW DIRECTIONS**

Connect Three boxes vertically, horizontally, or diagonally to select **your additional 3 required elements. USE MLA FORMAT TO CITE QUOTATIONS (example below).**

<b>Quotes:</b> Write 3 meaningful quotes and write at least 2 sentences to explain the significance of each quote. What does it infer, symbolize, suggest, relate to, etc.?	<b>Fig. Lang.:</b> Identify and illustrate 3 examples of figurative language. Each example must include the quote, an illustration, and a one sentence explanation.	<b>Images:</b> Draw 3 images that represent the book (theme, symbols, characters, or conflicts within the book). Label each image. Write at least 2 sentences to explain why this symbol is significant.
<b>Images:</b> Draw 3 images that represent the book (theme, symbols, characters, or conflicts within the book). Label each image. Write at least 2 sentences to explain why this symbol is significant.	<b>Timeline:</b> Create a timeline with 10 critical events. The timeline must be linear or follow the plot diagram. Each event must be a complete sentence.	<b>Quotes:</b> Write 3 meaningful quotes and write at least 2 sentences to explain the significance of each quote. What does it infer, symbolize, suggest, relate to, etc.?
<b>Setting:</b> Illustrate a setting from the book. The illustration must be accurate, detailed, and in full-color. Provide 3 quotes from the book to support the illustration.	<b>Quotes:</b> Write 3 meaningful quotes and write at least 2 sentences to explain the significance of each quote. What does it infer, symbolize, suggest, relate to, etc.?	<b>Song:</b> Find song lyrics that connect to the book. Write the lyrics, include the song, artist, and a 2-3 sentence explanation of how the song related to the book.

# One-Pager Brainstorming Checklist

---

Use this paper as a checklist to make sure you have every element complete

---

## Required Elements:

- ☐ The **entire page** is filled with color, images, or text
- ☐ Every element is **clearly and neatly labeled**
- ☐ My one-pager includes the **title, author, and genre**
- ☐ All of my quotes are properly cited in **MLA Format**. "quote" (Author's last name pg. no).  
Example: (Smith 120).
- ☐ I included **3 elements of story options from the Connect Three board**.
- ☐ My handwriting is neat and legible (no typing)

**Projects will be presented.**

---

# OnePager Rubric

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Requirements	Advanced	Proficient	Almost	Needs Improvement
Title, author, and genre	5 All elements are present, correct, and creative.	4 All elements are present and correct.	3 One element may be missing or incorrect.	0-2 Multiple errors or not present.
Images	15 The images are labeled, detailed, thorough, and relate to the novel.	12 The images are labeled, detailed, and relate to the novel.	9 The images are labeled and relate to the novel.	0-6 There are no images or they are not related.
Elements of Story	20 All 3 elements show analysis, creativity, & insight.	16 All elements of the are present.	12 The elements are lacking depth or clarity.	0-8 Elements of Story are missing. .
Assignment Requirements	5 All aspects are labeled. There is no excess white space.	4 All aspects labeled. There is no white space.	3 Missing labels. No white space.	0-2 White space. Project seems rushed.
Mechanics	10 No grammar, spelling, or convention errors	8 1-2 minor grammar, spelling, or convention errors.	6 Several grammar, spelling, or convention errors.	0-4 Grammar, spelling, or convention errors detract from the project.
Creativity and Effort	10 Superb!	8 Above average	6 Adequate	0-4 Needs improvement
Total Points  _____ _____/65	Comments			

