



Summer Reading 2026 - Grade 7

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

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 of the book will be given to each student by the school.

After reading the novel, complete the following:

Write on notebook paper using blue or black ink.

Please write neatly and answer thoroughly. Number the answers.

Please note that you will have a TEST over this book a few weeks after school starts.

- 1: Title of the book (underlined) / author / genre
- 2: Explain 2 personal connections made in the text or with the characters.
- 3: List 3 questions that came to your mind while reading.
4. Pick 3 passages from the text that stood out to you and explain why. When you lift the text from the novel, then put quotation marks around them. Your explanations should be 3-4 sentences each.
5. What is a theme or life lesson given? Explain and give textual evidence.
6. Write 5-7 sentences about what you think will happen next – after the ending given.
7. Write 5-7 sentences and answer HOW DID THIS AUTHOR'S BOOK CHANGE YOUR VIEW OF THE WORLD? Give supporting details from the text.
8. Pick a character from the novel. Using textual details, explain (bullet points or sentences) how he/she was at the beginning of the novel - then at the end. Write a paragraph explaining to me HOW the character changed and WHY he/she changed.
9. Pick a character from your text. Do you admire or disapprove of him/her? Give two reasons **using the text** to prove your opinion.
10. If you had to pick one object from the book and say that it symbolizes the theme, what would you choose? Think about this some and then write 4-5 sentences telling me why you chose what you did.

THEN - using a piece of copy paper, illustrate one scene from the book and write 10 words from the book that are meaningful in some way or illustrate something from that scene

You will turn in to me around August 20.

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 Dueker*
- *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*
- *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 using COPY paper. 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

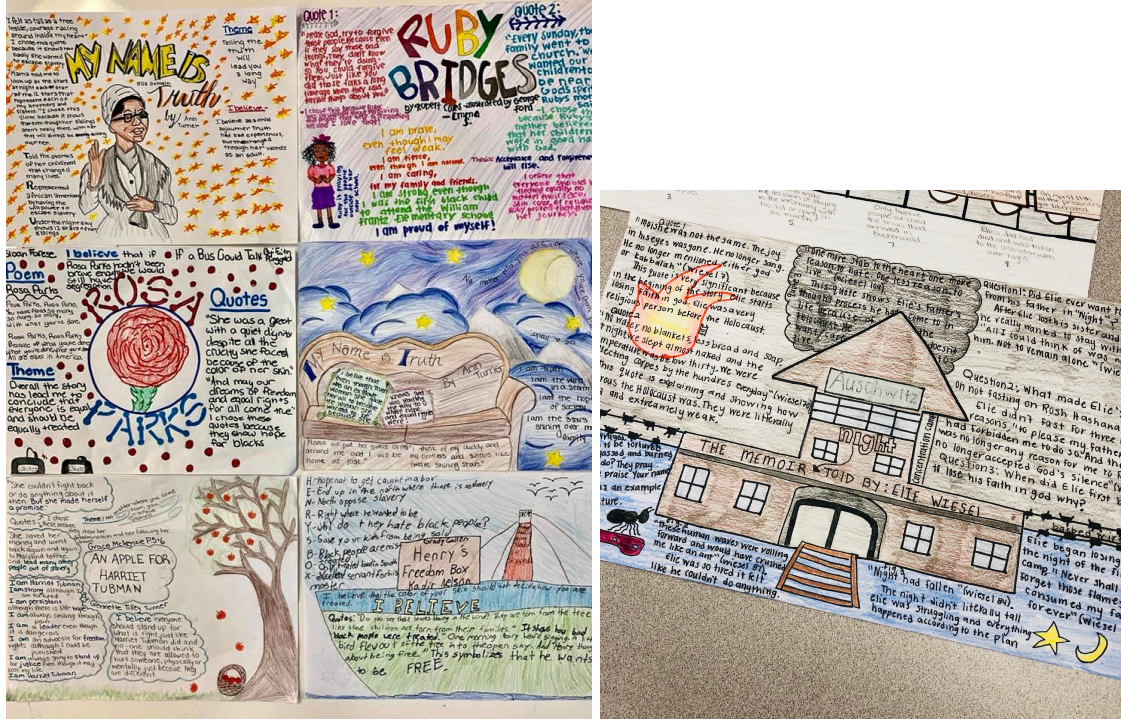
A one-pager is an analytical (organized and detailed), creative, and written response to a novel that **completely fills one side** of a piece of paper. **For your one-pager, you'll want to focus on the big ideas from the novel including theme, symbolism, and conflict, as well as literary devices and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

MAKE SURE YOU FOLLOW DIRECTIONS

Below are examples from the internet. They may have slightly different elements, but you can get the main idea. I have other examples that I will show when school begins.



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

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 (underlined), 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)

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

<p>Quotes: Write 3 meaningful passages and write at least 2 sentences to explain the significance of each quote. What does it infer, symbolize, suggest, relate to, etc.?</p>	<p>Fig. Lang.: Identify and illustrate 3 examples of figurative language. Each example must include the quote, an illustration, and a one sentence explanation.</p>	<p>Images: 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.</p>
<p>Images: 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.</p>	<p>Timeline: Create a timeline with 10 critical events. The timeline must be linear or follow the plot diagram. Each event must be a complete sentence.</p>	<p>Quotes: 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.?</p>
<p>Setting: 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.</p>	<p>Quotes: 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.?</p>	<p>Song: 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.</p>

Projects will be presented.

ONE-PAGER 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			