

**The Cumberland School**  
**High School Summer Reading Assignment, 2020, Grades 11-12**

**Every** student who will be taking English in grades 9-12 at Cumberland for the 2020-2021 school year must read one of the books listed for his or her 2020-2021 grade level and complete the responsive journal for the chosen book.

**The journal must be turned in to your English teacher at your SECOND English class of the year. It will be graded and will count as a QUIZ grade.**

The instructions for completing your reading response journal follow the book lists for each grade. Please choose a book that you have not already read. Although revisiting an old favorite can be fun, summer should also be a time to try something new!

**12th Grade-- choose one:**

***Much Ado about Nothing*** (drama by William Shakespeare): Does he love her? Does she love him? Love never has a smooth path in Shakespeare's comedies!

***The Merchant of Venice*** (drama by William Shakespeare): High finance, love, prejudice, and disguise, all in one comedy

**1984** (novel by George Orwell): Published in 1949, a novel about a dystopian future. Big Brother is watching you!

***The Scarlet Pimpernel*** (novel by Baroness Orczy): He doesn't exactly have super-powers, but the dashing hero *does* have a secret identity.

***And Then There Were None*** (Agatha Christie): One of Christie's most famous mysteries, this one made the PBS list of 100 best novels on *The Great American Read*.

**11th Grade -- choose one:**

***The Glass Menagerie*** (drama by Tennessee Williams): Williams's first successful play, showing the dreams and disappointments of a St. Louis family in the 1930s

***A Raisin in the Sun*** (drama by Lorraine Hansberry): Hansberry's play about an African-American family and their conflicting dreams, on Chicago's South Side in the 1950's

***The Red Badge of Courage*** (historical fiction by Stephen Crane): What were the challenges of facing a real war, for a young, inexperienced Civil War soldier? Stephen Crane lets the soldier tell his own story.

***My Antonia*** (novel by Willa Cather): Cather's novel about a resilient immigrant farm girl growing up in Nebraska in the late 1800's, narrated by Antonia's childhood friend

***Caves of Steel*** (novel by Isaac Asimov) - It's science fiction, it's a mystery, and it has robots.

**Responsive Journal Assignment:** Active reading is a kind of dialogue with the author. Using a responsive journal encourages active reading: attending to detail, reflective questioning, drawing conclusions, and connecting to prior knowledge or life experiences.

**Directions for the Journal:**

1. Copy the double-column page following these instructions, or create one like it. You will need multiple pages.
2. Divide your book into 10 (approximately) equal sections and, as you read, write a double-column response for each section, for a total of 10 quotations and 10 responses. (For example, if your book is 200 pages, you would write a double-column response for every 20 pages. If you read a 5-act play, write two responses per act.)
3. As you read, write down, in the left ("Text") column, **passages of text from your novel that seem significant to you. Copy the passage exactly, including quotation marks and page numbers (or, for plays, Act and scene numbers). If you are reading an e-book with no page numbers, give the chapter.** The passages should be in **complete sentences**.
4. In the right column, ("Reflections"), write **your response to the quoted passage of text.**

**5. What kinds of passages should you choose to write down? What kind of responses should you make? You should have a variety of responses. Your 10 quotations and responses must include AT LEAST THREE of the following types:**

**CHARACTER** -When a new character is introduced or you learn something significant about him. Explain what the passage reveals about the character.

**SURPRISE!** -When an event or situation in the plot surprises you, shocks you, or causes some other strong emotion.. Explain your emotional reaction to the statement or event (surprise? shock?) and WHY you reacted that way.

**JUDGMENT** -When you particularly agree or disagree with something a character does. Explain WHY you agree or disagree with what the character did or said.

**CONFLICT** - Your quote illustrates a major conflict in the book. Identify the conflict and explain how the quote illustrates it or is an example of it.

**THEME** - When you think the passage reveals or supports a main theme or idea of the novel. Identify the theme and explain how the quoted passage illustrates it.

**PREDICTION** - When something prompts you to predict what will happen later in the book. Tell what you predict will happen, and why you think so.

**CONNECTION** - - When you make a connection from the passage to your life, the real world, current events, or even another book. Explain your connection: HOW does the quote relate to your own experience, or the real world, or current events, or ...?

**6. Each of your responses should show **thought** and **reflection**, should be in **complete sentences**, and should be about **40-50 words long**.** This journal will be graded for completeness, thoroughness, variety and quality of response, and correct use of grammar, spelling, and capitalization.

**\*\*YOUR RESPONSE MUST NOT SIMPLY SUMMARIZE THE PLOT OR RESTATE THE QUOTE.\*\***

**Your quotations and responses must come from your own reading, not outside sources.**

The following pages give an example of a quote/response entry, a blank entry page to copy, and the rubric by which your reading response journal will be graded.

EXAMPLE of a double-column entry, with page number. (This one reveals character.):

TEXT	RESPONSE
Justine started...and said, "Dear Sir, your are very kind to visit me; you, I hope, do not believe that I am guilty." I could not answer. "No, Justine," said Elizabeth; "he is more convinced of your innocence than I was...." (67)	Victor Frankenstein is getting credit for supporting Justine's innocence in a child's murder case, but actually he knows that it was his monster who committed the murder, and he is too much of a coward to admit his guilt as the monster's creator. Victor appears cowardly and self-centered.

**TEXT**

**RESPONSE**

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**Summer Reading Response Rubric : All scores will be multiplied by 5**

4	3	2	1
<b>QUOTATIONS</b>			
<b>Quotations:</b> Quotations are in complete sentences. There are 10 quotations, drawn from throughout the book	<b>Quotations:</b> Quotations are in complete sentences. There are only 8-9 quotations, drawn from throughout the book	<b>Quotations:</b> Several quotations are not in complete sentences OR Student has only 5-7 quotes. Some sections of the book are not represented by quotes	<b>Quotations</b> Student has only 2-4 quotes. Much of the book is not represented by quotes.
<b>Citation:</b> All quotations are correctly identified by page number, chapter, or act and scene	<b>Citation:</b> 8-9 quotations are correctly identified by page number, chapter, or act/scene.	<b>Citation:</b> 5-7 quotations are correctly identified by page number, chapter, or act/scene	<b>Citation:</b> Only 4-6 quotations are correctly identified by page number, chapter, or act/scene .
<b>RESPONSES</b>			
<b>Comprehension:</b> Responses show full and accurate understanding of the quoted texts, in relation to their context	<b>Comprehension:</b> Responses generally show good understanding of the texts in their contexts, but 1 or 2 responses show only basic understanding of what the quote says.	<b>Comprehension:</b> Responses show only basic understanding of what the texts say, without relation to their contexts OR the basic meaning of 2-3 texts is misunderstood.	<b>Comprehension:</b> Responses show lack of understanding of half or more of the quoted texts.
<b>Response Content:</b> Student used at least 3 types of responses, Responses are thoughtful and applicable to the quote. Responses are at least 40 words long.	<b>Response Content:</b> Student used at least 3 types of responses, Most responses are thoughtful and applicable. Responses are at least 40 words long	<b>Response Content:</b> Student used only 2 response types. Several responses do not really apply OR simply restate the quotation or action. Responses are shorter than 40 words.	<b>Response Content:</b> Student used only 1 or 2 response types. <b>Most</b> responses simply restate the quote OR do not really apply to the quote. Responses are shorter than 40 words.
<b>Spelling, Punctuation, and Grammar</b> Responses use complete sentences, appropriate grammar, and correct spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.	<b>Spelling, Punctuation, and Grammar</b> Responses use complete sentences and usually use correct grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.	<b>Spelling, Punctuation, and Grammar:</b> Responses have some incomplete sentences, or there are significant errors in grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.	<b>Spelling, Punctuation, and Grammar:</b> The majority of the sentences are incomplete, or errors in spelling, grammar, punctuation, and capitalization make the response unclear.