

Sixth Grade Pre-AP Summer Reading Assignment

Dear Incoming Sixth Grade Pre-AP English Students and Parents,

Welcome to sixth grade Pre-AP English! We look forward to meeting all of you next year. In order to enrich your learning experiences, we have prepared a curriculum that is both challenging and engaging.

How is Pre-AP different from the on-level English classes? While both courses apply critical reading, writing, listening, speaking and thinking skills to novels, short stories, plays, poems, and informational texts, you will be expected to work at a much deeper level. In order to be able to discuss, debate, hypothesize, and make connections to other literary works and other disciplines in class, you will be expected to complete some reading and writing at home.

This summer you will have the opportunity to select and read one of the novels from our district list. All of the novels focus on the idea of “embracing our differences”. Included in this letter are your summer reading directions. If after reading the directions you have further questions, please feel free to call or email the campus or district contact.

You will turn in your summer reading project on August 28, 2019 to your Pre-AP ELA teacher. Please allow yourself enough time to thoroughly read the novel and complete the assignment. This will be your first major grade of the nine weeks. In addition, you can expect an assignment or multiple assignments over your summer reading book during the first nine weeks of class as you and your teacher make connections between the literary elements and author’s craft in your chosen text and the other texts being read. In order to make sure that you are well-prepared, make sure that your project has been completed on or before Wednesday, August 28, 2019.

Enjoy your summer and happy reading!

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All summer reading assignments for Pre-AP or AP English are available on the campus and district websites.

Sixth Grade Pre-AP Summer Reading Book Options

Below are the approved novel choices for 6th grade Pre-AP ELA courses. Please select one of the following texts for your summer reading project.

Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick

Rules by Cynthia Lord

Out of My Mind by Sharon M. Draper

Al Capone Does My Shirts by Gennifer Choldenko

Sixth Grade Pre-AP Summer Reading Project

Over your summer break, you will create a project based upon the novel that you have selected. You may create a pamphlet, a one-pager (see example), or a poster. Your project should either be turned in written in ink, typed, or submitted electronically on or before **August 28, 2019**.

Project requirements:

1. **Heading:** Your first and last name, date, and course title
2. The **title of the novel** and the **author's name** should be near the top of the document.
3. **Plot diagram:** Complete a plot diagram of the novel that you read. Be sure to include the exposition, conflict, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution.
4. **Summary:** Briefly (in approximately 100 words) summarize the events of the story in the appropriate sequence. The summary should include the characters, the main conflict, and key details from the text. (The plot diagram will be helpful with constructing your summary.) Avoid including too many details. This should not be the blurb from the back of the novel or another summary found elsewhere. This should include only your original thoughts and words.
5. **Quotations:** As you read, find and copy three sentences or passages (this means any wording taken directly from the novel, not just what a character says) that struck you as powerful, interesting, puzzling, important, thought-provoking, informative, confusing, well-written, etc. Be sure to put these in quotation marks. In addition, write two to three sentences per quote about why you chose that particular quote. Be sure to include the page number where the quote is found.
6. **Theme:** A theme is a lesson learned about life that can be better understood by reading the story. In addition to the theme "It is important to embrace our differences.", what other theme did you discover in your selected novel? You will need to include a complete sentence with the theme statement as well as at least two other sentences explaining how this theme statement applies to the novel.

NOTE: Campus policies regarding late work apply to this assignment.

Sixth Grade Pre-AP Summer Reading Project Rubric

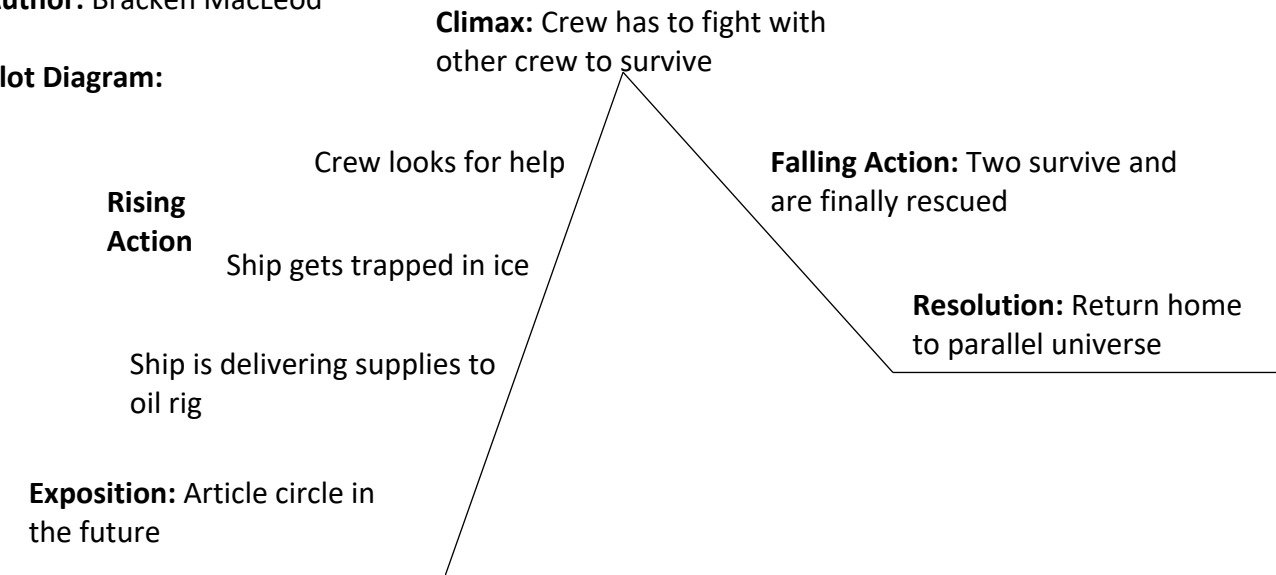
Components	4 Exceeds Expectations	3 Meets Expectations	2 Approaches Expectations	1 Below Expectations	0 Does Not Meet Expectations
Heading, Title, and Plot Diagram	All parts of the plot are accurate and correctly represented on the plot diagram. The plot diagram includes the names of important characters, places, and the setting. The heading and title are included.	All parts of the plot are accurate and correctly represented on the plot diagram. The heading and title are included.	The plot diagram is present but one element of the plot is missing. The heading and title are included.	The plot diagram is present but more than one element of the plot is missing. The heading and title are included.	The plot diagram is missing more than three elements or is missing altogether. The heading and title may or may not be included.
Summary	The student has accurately summarized their story with all of the important events.	The student has accurately summarized their story with most of the important events.	The student has accurately summarized their story with some of the important events.	The student has incompletely summarized their story.	The student did not complete a summary of the story.
Quotations	3 quotes are included with page numbers, proper use of quotation marks, and an effective explanation for each.	3 quotes are included with page numbers, proper use of quotation marks, and a general explanation for each.	2 quotes are included with page numbers, proper use of quotation marks, and an effective explanation for each.	1 quote is included with page numbers, proper use of quotation marks, and an effective explanation .	0 quotes are included.
Theme	An additional theme statement is provided in a complete sentence as well as at least two other sentences that provide an effective explanation.	An additional theme statement is provided in a complete sentence as well as at least two other sentences that provide a general explanation.	An additional theme statement is provided in a complete sentence, but the explanation is lacking in clarity.	An additional theme statement is provided in a complete sentence, but the explanation is not present.	No additional theme statement is provided.
Spelling and Grammar	The project is completely free of spelling and grammar errors.	There is no more than one spelling or grammar error.	There are two or three spelling or grammar errors.	There are four or five spelling or grammar errors.	There are more than five spelling or grammar errors.

Sixth Grade Pre-AP Summer Reading One-Pager Example

John Smith
August 28, 2019
Pre-AP ELA Period 4

Novel: Stranded
Author: Bracken MacLeod

Plot Diagram:



Summary: Noah Cabot was working on a cargo ship with his ex-father-in-law, William Brewster, because he wanted to earn enough money to move him and his daughter back East to be closer to his family. The ship was frozen in place after a terrible storm, and all of the equipment failed. So, the men took a crew out to the oil rig in the distance and found a twin ship with twin selves from a parallel universe. To survive, the two men fought and killed their twin selves. In the end, the main character and his best friend were the only survivors, and they didn't know to which universe they would return.

Quotations:

1. "A cold womb inviting them to return to the lightless source of all life and die, each man alone in its black silence." The frigid, chilling tone sets the mood of the story and matches the setting. Comparing the sea to a womb and grave emphasizes its dominance over man.
2. "He was worth more dead than alive to most be people he knew, but not her." The men on the ship don't like Noah- why? I think they will try to kill him. However, he is important to his daughter because he is all she has left since her mother died.
3. "It wasn't the Niflheim." Why is the rig called the Niflheim? I looked it up-it is the Scandinavian word for the mythological world of eternal cold, darkness, and mist inhabited by those who die of old age or illness.

Theme:

A theme expressed in the book is that you should never give up. In life there are many obstacles that are thrown our way each day, and if we are meant to endure certain trials, then we must employ all of our effort to continue moving forward. Even after enduring the difficulty of losing of his wife, Noah persevered through further hardship and conflict in order to accomplish his goal.