

7th Grade Summer Reading- English Language Arts
2021-2022

Dear Parents and Students,

Educational research confirms that reading is a core skill and that students who read usually excel in all areas of study. Trinity wants its students to prepare themselves for the upcoming school year and maintain their skills in reading, thinking, and vocabulary.

All Middle School students are asked to read the novel *City Spies* by James Ponti. Students in the 7th grade are also asked to keep a journal while reading. This journal will be taken up on the first day of school for a grade and used later to write our first essay of the year. A good summary journal will result in a good essay grade as well, so do your best work! The specifics of the assignment are as follows:

1. Students may use any type of journal for this assignment. The journal can be purchased, or it can simply be paper stapled together. This is a matter of simple preference.
2. Students are asked to briefly summarize each chapter of the novel as a separate journal entry. Each chapter, or entry, will be on a separate piece page or piece of paper.
3. Each page of the journal will be titled as follows:
 - a. Title of book and name of author (since you are writing and not typing, underline the book title)
 - b. Chapter number and title of chapter
4. Each journal entry will briefly retell, or summarize, the chapter including the following information:
 - a. Write a summary beginning with a topic sentence. Example: Chapter one begins with an introduction to the main character.
 - b. Include the main characters in this chapter and the main action of each character
 - c. Include the main details of plot as it occurred in the chapter (leave out minor, unimportant details)
 - d. Make sure you are writing in correct paragraph form; indent your paragraph. A good paragraph is generally between 5-8 sentences long.
5. Student must hand-write each journal entry. A typed journal will not be accepted.

A note to students: Do not use any outside resource to help you summarize each chapter. In the long run, this does not help you. This grade will simply be for completion and effort. Students will ultimately submit the assignment to turnitin.com for a plagiarism check. Plagiarism will result in a failing grade, so please do not work together on this journal assignment.