

2021 8th Grade (Standard and Honors) Literature Summer Assignment

Standard Summer Book:

- [The Lost Hero](#) (Heroes of Olympus Book 1) by Rick Riordan

Standard Summer Writing:

1. Chapter Summaries: As you read through the assigned text, write/type chapter summaries consisting of 3 sentences minimum. Each chapter summary should contain the chapter title, setting, main characters, and plot advancement. Your chapter summaries should display an understanding of each chapter and the text as a whole.

2. 150 Word Essay:

Prompt:

Rick Riordan's novel "The Lost Hero" presents several key themes (life lessons) for the reader. Through character interactions, established settings, and narrator monologues, Riordan's novel begs the reader to ponder the implied themes (life lessons) surrounding such topics as integrity, interpersonal communication, teamwork, determination, commitment, and wisdom. Many, though not all, of these themes (life lessons) will be discussed at length in class.

In 150 words minimum, answer the following question: What is a key theme presented in this novel? Your answer must take the form of an argument (i.e., an attempt to persuade) directed toward a teacher. Assume that your reader is interested in the novel, well-disposed to rational dialogue (i.e. willing to sit down and talk about the novel without just pushing their opinion), and relatively informed about the story presented in the novel.

Expectations:

1. Begin by directly answering the question: identify a key theme and describe its presence throughout the novel.
(Do not summarize the novel; assume your reader has read the novel and basically understood it.)
2. Defend your key theme with two supportive arguments (evidence, elaboration).
3. You may refer to other novels/texts, but do not get distracted from 'The Lost Hero' novel.

Paragraph Outline:

- I. Analysis (What is the key theme and how does it show up in the novel?)
 - A. Evidence 1 (What is an example from the novel?)
 1. Elaboration (How does this example show the key theme?)
 - B. Evidence 2 (What is an example from the novel?)
 1. Elaboration (How does this example show the key theme?)
- II. Closing (Why should the reader believe your argument?)

(Reach out to Mr. Gross agross@ecseagles.com with any questions about the assigned Chapter Summaries or 150 Word Essay.)

Honors Summer Book:

- [The Mysterious Benedict Society](#) (Book 1) by Trenton Lee Stewart
- [The Time Machine](#) by H. G. Wells

Honors Summer Writing:

1. Chapter Summaries: As you read through the assigned texts, write/type chapter summaries for both texts consisting of 3 sentences minimum. Each chapter summary should contain the chapter title, setting, main characters, and plot advancement. Your chapter summaries should display an understanding of each chapter and the texts as a whole.

2. 300 Word Essay:

Prompt:

Trenton Lee Stewart's novel "The Mysterious Benedict Society" presents several key themes (life lessons) for the reader. Through character interactions, established settings, and narrator monologues, Stewart's novel begs the reader to ponder the implied themes (life lessons) surrounding such topics as integrity, interpersonal communication, justice, determination, cooperation, and wisdom. Many, though not all, of these themes (life lessons) will be discussed at length in class.

In 300 words minimum, answer the following question: What is a key theme presented in this novel? Your answer must take the form of an argument (i.e., an attempt to persuade) directed toward a teacher. Assume that your reader is interested in the novel, well-disposed to rational dialogue (i.e. willing to sit down and talk about the novel without just pushing their opinion), and relatively informed about the story presented in the novel.

Expectations:

1. Begin by directly answering the question: identify a key theme and describe its presence throughout the novel.
(Do not summarize the novel; assume your reader has read the novel and basically understood it.)
2. Defend your key theme with two supportive arguments (evidence, elaboration).
3. You may refer to other novels/texts, but do not get distracted from 'The Mysterious Benedict Society' novel.

Paragraph Outline:

- I. Analysis (What is the key theme and how does it show up in the novel?)
 - A. Evidence 1 (What is an example from the novel?)
 1. Elaboration (How does this example show the key theme?)
 - B. Evidence 2 (What is an example from the novel?)
 1. Elaboration (How does this example show the key theme?)
- II. Closing (Why should the reader believe your argument?)

(Reach out to Mr. Gross agross@ecseagles.com with any questions about the assigned Chapter Summaries or 300 Word Essay.)