**English 1** **Name:**
**Incoming Freshman Summer Read**

# *Reading Comprehension Activities (RCA)*

Purpose: This RCA packet is designed to reinforce and extend basic literacy skills. In high school and college, students are expected to complete reading assignments independently on a daily basis. Students who deliberately develop strategies for reading comprehension are more likely to be successful academically across content areas.

All incoming freshmen can expect initial assessments in English I to be focused on the summer read. Completion of this packet during reading will provide students with a ready reference for class discussion and assignment/assessment completion. While most English teachers will not require or expect students to complete the reading guide, they may allow use of a completed reading guide during assessments.

Below is a suggested reading schedule, which also follows the organization of this packet.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Day 1 | chapters 1 – 8 | pp. 3-59 |
| Day 2 | chapters 9 – 16 | pp. 60-92 |
| Day 3 | chapters 17 – 20 | pp. 95-124 |
| Day 4 | chapters 21 – 23 | pp. 125-148 |
| Day 5 | chapters 24 – 26 | pp. 149-174 |
| Day 6 | chapters 27 – 32 | pp. 175-204 |
| Day 7 | chapters 33 – 43 | pp. 205-282 |
| Day 8 | chapters 44 – 52 | pp. 285-310 |
| Day 9 | chapters 53 – 63 | pp. 311-339 |
| Day 10 | chapters 64 – 70 | pp. 343-366 |
| Day 11 | chapters 71 – 81 | pp. 367-396 |
| Day 12 | chapters 82 – Epilogue | pp. 397-417 |

# *RCA for Chapters 1-8*

A. Use complete sentences to summarize the plot of each chapter. In the first few chapters, include pertinent details suggesting the setting as well.

| **Chapter Summaries** |
| --- |
| 1<br>Exposition – narrator introduces best friend (Delaney Doyle), and reveals that his papaw is in poor health (some serious condition related to the function of his lungs). Setting of the novel is unclear, though narrator mentions the Pigeon River, which runs through Tennessee, and use of the term "papaw" suggests Appalachian dialect. |
| 2 |
| 3 |
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| 7 |
| 8 |

B. Describe how each of the main characters (Cash and Delaney) are developed during these chapters. Then identify another character and describe her/his development as well. Use complete sentences and text-centered details to support your descriptions.

| **Character** | **Description of Character Development** |
|---|---|
| Cash Pruitt | |
| Delaney Doyle | |
| Write the name of another character: | |

C. Choose two of the following themes and then provide evidence of how each theme is developed during this particular set of chapters:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Love for Family | Love of Friends | Romantic Love |
| Identity/Culture | Addiction | Faith |
| Coming of Age/Manhood | Discernment | Dying and Death |
| Fear | Justice | Grief |
| Imposter Syndrome | Self-Concept | Self-Discovery |

| **Theme** | **Evidence of Theme Developing** |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |

D. What are two words that you came across while reading these chapters that were either somewhat or very unfamiliar to you? Write those words (along with a chapter and page reference), look for and record context clues around the work, and record a brief dictionary definition.

| **Word** | **Context Clue(s)** | **Definition** |
|---|---|---|
| *apocryphal* (ch. 2, pg. 9) | used as an adjective to describe a story; suggested to mean "completely and entirely false" | of doubtful authenticity |
| | | |

E. In what way(s) does point of view enhance the story throughout these chapters? Explain.

Jeff Zentner (the author) uses a first-person narrator to tell this story. Events are relayed through the perspective of Cash Pruitt, which allows the reader to understand more deeply the inner conflicts Cash wrestles with as he contemplates the decision of whether to follow Delaney to Middleford Academy in Connecticut, or stay in in Sawyer, Tennessee. His affection for his friend is evident in the way he describes her ("I've always thought she had a strangely elegant beauty" (pg. 19), though he doesn't seem to understand the depth of his own emotions toward her.

# *RCA for Chapters 9-16*

A. Summarize each of the chapters as you read:

| |
|---|
| 9 |
| 10 |
| 11 |
| 12 |
| 13 |
| 14 |
| 15 |
| 16 |

# *RCA for Chapters 9-16*

B. Write descriptions for either new characters presented in the chapters you read, or provide evidence for how a main character developed.

| **Name of Character** | **Description**<br>*The description should either introduce a new character or provide insight about the development of a main character.* |
|---|---|
| | |
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| | |

C. What are two possible themes that you believe are relevant to the chapters that you read? Provide some evidence from the reading about how those themes are relevant.

| **Theme** | **Evidence of Theme Developing** |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |

D. As you read, find three words which are unfamiliar to you. Record the words (along with chapter and page reference), look for and record context clues around the words, and record a brief dictionary definition for each.

| **Word** | **Context Clue(s)** | **Definition** |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

# *RCA for Chapters 17-20*

A. Summarize each of the chapters as you read:

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|---|
| 17 |
| 18 |
| 19 |
| 20 |

# *RCA for Chapters 17-20*

B. Write descriptions for either new characters presented in the chapters you read, or provide evidence for how a main character developed.

| **Name of Character** | **Description**<br>*The description should either introduce a new character or provide insight about the development of a main character.* |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |
| | |

C. What are two possible themes that you believe are relevant to the chapters that you read? Provide some evidence from the reading about how those themes are relevant.

| **Theme** | **Evidence of Theme Developing** |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |

D. As you read, find three words which are unfamiliar to you. Record the words (along with chapter and page reference), look for and record context clues around the words, and record a brief dictionary definition for each.

| **Word** | **Context Clue(s)** | **Definition** |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

# *RCA for Chapters 21-23*

A. Summarize each of the chapters as you read:

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|---|
| 21 |
| 22 |
| 23 |

# *RCA for Chapters 21-23*

B. Write descriptions for either new characters presented in the chapters you read, or provide evidence for how a main character developed.

| **Name of Character** | **Description**<br>*The description should either introduce a new character or provide insight about the development of a main character.* |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |
| | |

C. What are two possible themes that you believe are relevant to the chapters that you read? Provide some evidence from the reading about how those themes are relevant.

| **Theme** | **Evidence of Theme Developing** |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |

D. As you read, find three words which are unfamiliar to you. Record the words (along with chapter and page reference), look for and record context clues around the words, and record a brief dictionary definition for each.

| **Word** | **Context Clue(s)** | **Definition** |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
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| | | |

# *RCA for Chapters 24-26*

A. Summarize each of the chapters as you read:

| |
|---|
| 24 |
| 25 |
| 26 |

# *RCA for Chapters 24-26*

B. Write descriptions for either new characters presented in the chapters you read, or provide evidence for how a main character developed.

| **Name of Character** | **Description**<br>*The description should either introduce a new character or provide insight about the development of a main character.* |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |
| | |

C. What are two possible themes that you believe are relevant to the chapters that you read? Provide some evidence from the reading about how those themes are relevant.

| **Theme** | **Evidence of Theme Developing** |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |

D. As you read, find three words which are unfamiliar to you. Record the words (along with chapter and page reference), look for and record context clues around the words, and record a brief dictionary definition for each.

| **Word** | **Context Clue(s)** | **Definition** |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

# *RCA for Chapters 27-32*

A. Summarize each of the chapters as you read:

| |
|---|
| 27 |
| 28 |
| 29 |
| 30 |
| 31 |
| 32 |

# *RCA for Chapters 27-32*

B. Write descriptions for either new characters presented in the chapters you read, or provide evidence for how a main character developed.

| **Name of Character** | **Description**<br>*The description should either introduce a new character or provide insight about the development of a main character.* |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |
| | |

C. What are two possible themes that you believe are relevant to the chapters that you read? Provide some evidence from the reading about how those themes are relevant.

| **Theme** | **Evidence of Theme Developing** |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |

D. As you read, find three words which are unfamiliar to you. Record the words (along with chapter and page reference), look for and record context clues around the words, and record a brief dictionary definition for each.

| **Word** | **Context Clue(s)** | **Definition** |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

# *RCA for Chapters 33-43*

A. Summarize each of the chapters as you read:

| |
|---|
| 33 |
| 34 |
| 35 |
| 36 |
| 37 |
| 38 |

39

40

41

42

43

# *RCA for Chapters 33-43*

B. Write descriptions for either new characters presented in the chapters you read, or provide evidence for how a main character developed.

| **Name of Character** | **Description**<br>*The description should either introduce a new character or provide insight about the development of a main character.* |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |
| | |

C. What are two possible themes that you believe are relevant to the chapters that you read? Provide some evidence from the reading about how those themes are relevant.

| **Theme** | **Evidence of Theme Developing** |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |

D. As you read, find three words which are unfamiliar to you. Record the words (along with chapter and page reference), look for and record context clues around the words, and record a brief dictionary definition for each.

| **Word** | **Context Clue(s)** | **Definition** |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

# *RCA for Chapters 44-52*

A. Summarize each of the chapters as you read:

| |
|---|
| 44 |
| 45 |
| 46 |
| 47 |
| 48 |
| 49 |
| 50 |
| 51 |
| 52 |

# *RCA for Chapters 44-52*

B. Write descriptions for either new characters presented in the chapters you read, or provide evidence for how a main character developed.

| **Name of Character** | **Description**<br>*The description should either introduce a new character or provide insight about the development of a main character.* |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |
| | |

C. What are two possible themes that you believe are relevant to the chapters that you read? Provide some evidence from the reading about how those themes are relevant.

| **Theme** | **Evidence of Theme Developing** |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |

D. As you read, find three words which are unfamiliar to you. Record the words (along with chapter and page reference), look for and record context clues around the words, and record a brief dictionary definition for each.

| **Word** | **Context Clue(s)** | **Definition** |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
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| | | |

# *RCA for Chapters 53-63*

A. Summarize each of the chapters as you read:

| |
|---|
| 53 |
| 54 |
| 55 |
| 56 |
| 57 |
| 58 |
| 59 |
| 60 |
| 61 |
| 62 |
| 63 |

# *RCA for Chapters 53-63*

B. Write descriptions for either new characters presented in the chapters you read, or provide evidence for how a main character developed.

| **Name of Character** | **Description**<br>*The description should either introduce a new character or provide insight about the development of a main character.* |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |
| | |

C. What are two possible themes that you believe are relevant to the chapters that you read? Provide some evidence from the reading about how those themes are relevant.

| **Theme** | **Evidence of Theme Developing** |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |

D. As you read, find three words which are unfamiliar to you. Record the words (along with chapter and page reference), look for and record context clues around the words, and record a brief dictionary definition for each.

| **Word** | **Context Clue(s)** | **Definition** |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

# *RCA for Chapters 64-70*

A. Summarize each of the chapters as you read:

| |
|---|
| 64 |
| 65 |
| 66 |
| 67 |
| 68 |
| 69 |
| 70 |

# *RCA for Chapters 64-70*

B. Write descriptions for either new characters presented in the chapters you read, or provide evidence for how a main character developed.

| **Name of Character** | **Description**<br>*The description should either introduce a new character or provide insight about the development of a main character.* |
|---|---|
| | |
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| | |

C. What are two possible themes that you believe are relevant to the chapters that you read? Provide some evidence from the reading about how those themes are relevant.

| **Theme** | **Evidence of Theme Developing** |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |

D. As you read, find three words which are unfamiliar to you. Record the words (along with chapter and page reference), look for and record context clues around the words, and record a brief dictionary definition for each.

| **Word** | **Context Clue(s)** | **Definition** |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
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| | | |

# *RCA for Chapters 71-81*

A. Summarize each of the chapters as you read:

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|---|
| 71 |
| 72 |
| 73 |
| 74 |
| 75 |
| 76 |
| 77 |
| 78 |
| 79 |
| 80 |
| 81 |

# *RCA for Chapters 71-81*

B. Write descriptions for either new characters presented in the chapters you read, or provide evidence for how a main character developed.

| **Name of Character** | **Description**<br>*The description should either introduce a new character or provide insight about the development of a main character.* |
|---|---|
| | |
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| | |

C. What are two possible themes that you believe are relevant to the chapters that you read? Provide some evidence from the reading about how those themes are relevant.

| **Theme** | **Evidence of Theme Developing** |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |

D. As you read, find three words which are unfamiliar to you. Record the words (along with chapter and page reference), look for and record context clues around the words, and record a brief dictionary definition for each.

| **Word** | **Context Clue(s)** | **Definition** |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
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| | | |

# *RCA for Chapters 82-Epilogue*

A. Summarize each of the chapters as you read:

| |
|---|
| 82 |
| 83 |
| 84 |
| Epilogue |

# *RCA for Chapters 82-Epilogue*

B. Write descriptions for either new characters presented in the chapters you read, or provide evidence for how a main character developed.

| **Name of Character** | **Description**<br>*The description should either introduce a new character or provide insight about the development of a main character.* |
|---|---|
| | |
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| | |

C. What are two possible themes that you believe are relevant to the chapters that you read? Provide some evidence from the reading about how those themes are relevant.

| **Theme** | **Evidence of Theme Developing** |
|---|---|
| | |
| | |

D. As you read, find three words which are unfamiliar to you. Record the words (along with chapter and page reference), look for and record context clues around the words, and record a brief dictionary definition for each.

| **Word** | **Context Clue(s)** | **Definition** |
|---|---|---|
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