

8th grade Summer Assignment Language Arts

Hello incoming Eighth Graders,

As you plan your summer vacation break, be sure to keep practicing your reading and writing skills. Over the summer, I hope you choose readings that interest you. Prepare to share your reading choices with us upon return to class in the fall.

I have two assignments for you to complete over the summer to ensure you're prepared for your 8th grade year at Our Lady of Victory Catholic School.

1. I am asking you to read **Around the World in 80 days by Jules Verne, graphic novel edition (Graphic Revolve: Common Core Editions)** .

Note the elements of imagery, as this makes it easier to follow some of the abstract parts of the story.

- After reading the graphic novel, complete the Question packet with reading and writing questions. This packet will be due the first week of class.
- You will share the questions and answers upon return to class.

**If you choose to watch the movie version of this book in addition to reading , watch the 1956 version as this closely aligns with the the original novel.

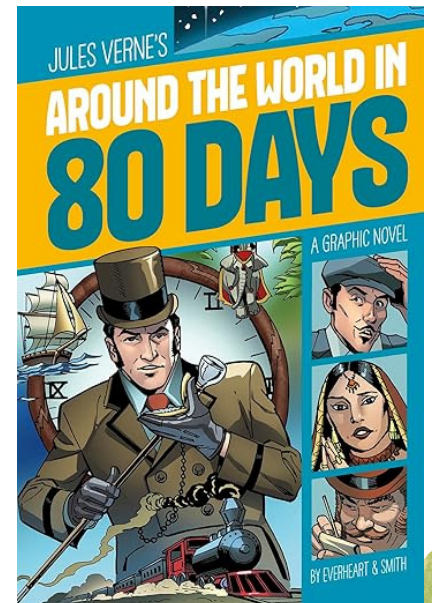
2. Read a book of your choice that you have not read and **complete a literature log letter connected to it**. I plan to compile these literature log letters in a binder that students may refer to as they search for interesting books to read.

I look forward to hearing about your summer, exploration of reading, and practice with writing when you return to school in the fall.

Sincerely,

Miss Catherine

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Name:

Date:

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS / QUESTION PACKET

Reading Questions

1. Why do the characters go on an eighty-day journey around the world?

Find specific details in the text and art that support your answer.

Name:

Date:

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS / QUESTION PACKET

Reading Questions

2. List all the different methods of transportation that Jean and Phileas take on their journey. Next, write down a few advantages and disadvantages of each particular form of travel.

Name:

Date:

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS / QUESTION PACKET

Reading Questions

***3. Make a list of all the obstacles the characters in the book face on their journey.
How do they overcome their obstacles?***

Name:

Date:

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS / QUESTION PACKET

Writing Questions

- 1. Draw a map on this page that includes a destination the group travels to in this book.
Then, write a description of the location.
What did the characters experience there?***

Name:

Date:

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS / QUESTION PACKET

Writing Questions

2. Imagine you are one of the characters in this book. Write a postcard to a friend or a family member about your journey. What will you tell them about? Construct your postcard on this page or attach a created postcard for this assignment.

Name:

Date:

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS / QUESTION PACKET

Writing Questions

3. Write four paragraphs about your favorite character. Why do you like that character the most? Identify areas in the text and illustrations that show why you like the character.

[illegible]

Name:

Date:

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS / QUESTION PACKET

Writing Questions

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[illegible]

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Date:

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[illegible]

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[illegible]

Literature log Letter rubric
7th/8th Grade Language Arts

Literature Log Letter Element

Date on 1st line to the right

Greeting (Dear So&So,) on 2nd line to the left _____/3 _____

Para. #1 What is in the book?

INTRODUCE 1st sentence should state the book title & author _____/5 _____

Short summary... In a nutshell, what is the book about?

Point of view ...Who is telling the story?

Whole paragraph = 5 sentence minimum) _____/10 _____

Para. #2 What is in your head?

REFLECT What do you believe is the theme of the book?

This is the author's message as a sentence, NOT a word.

What does it really make you think about and wonder? Why did he or she write this?

For example: What is the most important lesson or discovery you made about life, our world, yourself and/or other people from reading this book?

In a Claim/Evidence/Explanation format.

- Claim/response - What do you claim the theme to be?
- Evidence/example- "Line or QUOTE" (& **Author pg #**) after the quote- from the book as evidence of your claim.
- Explanation/reason-Why or how does your evidence back up your claim?

5 sentence minimum - _____/10 _____

Para. #3 What is in your head?

REFLECT Write about connections, inferences, observations, cause & effect, compare and contrast or some aspect of the author's writing style.

Examples: *The phrase, "....." got me thinking about because....*

Until I read, ".....," I had never considered..... in this way. Now I see....

Literature Log Letter Rubric Name: _____ Class: _____

I think the heart of NOVEL can be found in the line, "....." (reason)

As a writer, I noticed XX (author's name) used the technique of..... in the phrase "....." It was very effective because.....

In a Claim/Evidence/Explanation format similar to paragraph #2 _____/10 _____

Para. #4 What is in your heart?

Final thoughts

How can this reading make you a better person ? _____/5_____

I could really relate to the lines "....." or the part when..... because.....

(Author's name's) words, "....." really moved me because.....

In a Claim/Evidence/Explanation format.

- Claim/response - What do you claim the theme to be?
- Evidence/example- "Line or QUOTE" (& Author pg #) after the quote- from the book as evidence of your claim.
- Explanation/reason-Why or how does your evidence back up your claim?

Recommendation: whom and why? _____/3 _____

Closing (Sincerely, your name & class)

Should be to the left aligned at bottom of page _____/2 _____

Sentence structure clear / Contractions not present _____/5_____

Grammar mechanics (Checking for grammar/punctuation)

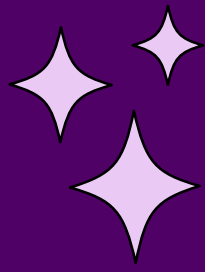
and name (First and last) on assignment _____/2_____

Total _____/55 _____

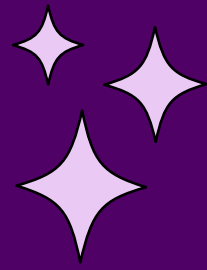
(Review before final submission of work)

TIP FOR SUCCESS! If you use a few notes, keeping in mind your search for opinions (I think, I believe) observations (I noticed), connections (XXX reminds me of XXX), inferences (I could infer...), themes, etc.,

Having evidence from the text already marked will make all the difference in the end. :)



GRAPHIC NOVEL



A graphic novel is a type of comic book that tells a longer and more complex story than traditional comic books. It combines elements of both literature and art to create a unique storytelling experience. Graphic novels are typically bound like traditional books and are often published in a single volume.

Key conventions include:

- **Panels:** an individual frame, containing a combination of image and text.
- **Frames:** the lines and borders that contain the panels in different shapes and sizes.
- **Splash:** a panel that spans the whole width of the page.
- **Bleed:** when the images run outside the frame to the edges of the page.
- **Narration box:** a hard line or box separating the narrator's speech at the top or bottom of a panel.
- **Speech bubbles:** rounded frames around the characters' direct speech.
- **Gutters :** spaces between panels where the reader infers action between scenes.
- **Onomatopoeia:** words that imitate the natural sound associated with them.



Characteristics:

- Sequential artwork – stories told through panels of illustrations arranged in a specific order.
- Combination of text and images to convey plot and character development.
- Visual narrative – action and storytelling through illustrations.
- Expressive artistic elements – visuals to convey storyline.