Summer Reading in American Literature

Congratulations on finishing your freshman year! This summer, you get to read two pieces: *A Separate Peace* by John Knowles and *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams. You will write a diagnostic essay on one of these pieces during the first and second week of school, so if you read these books earlier in the summer, I would recommend reviewing them before the first day. On the second day of school, you will be given a multiple-choice reading check test to measure if you read *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *A Separate Peace.* This test is not meant to trick you. It tests basic facts and plot points. Please take additional notes on the plot as you read *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *A Separate Peace* this summer.

A Separate Peace

Assignment #1:

Type out five quotations from the novel and cite the page number for each: two about a main **character**, one describing the **setting**, and two that relate to a few **themes** of the novel. You may quote dialogue from the novel or description from the narrator. After the quote, please paraphrase or summarize its ideas in your own words. If this novel is your choice, you will use it to write the in-class essay diagnostic essay in the first week of school.

A Streetcar Named Desire

Assignment #2:

Type out five quotations from the drama and cite the page number for each: one about **Stella**, two about **Blanche**, and two describing **Stanley**. Please quote dialogue or stage directions. Look for quotations that help support the **characterization** of each character. After the quote, paraphrase or summarize its ideas in your own words. If this drama is your choice, you will use it to write the in-class essay diagnostic essay in the first week of school.

MLA Format: In the upper left-hand corner, include your name, the instructor's name, the class, and the date. Please double space and use 12 pt. font Times New Roman.

Thank you,
Mrs. Alexander
American Literature Instructor