



Julia Landon Summer Reading Requirements

Every student entering Julia Landon is required to complete the summer reading and corresponding assignments, which are due on the first day of school.

Each grade level list contains six book choices; students are to choose two books from their designated grade level list to read over the summer, *one of which must be NONFICTION*, as noted beside the title. Students may, of course, read the other books as well, but need only choose two from their grade level list for the focus of the summer reading assignments. The assignments are listed below and are the same for each grade level. Students will complete one task per book; for instance, if you choose to write the essay on one book, you will complete the map for the other book.

Assignment #1: After you have read both books of your choice, think of a character in ONE of the books who demonstrated leadership. Write an essay about that character's leadership, using the prompt below and the attached essay framework to guide your writing. *Remember to use quotes from the book as support for your ideas, and to cite the page numbers.* The essay may be handwritten (neatly) or typed (12 font, black ink).

Essay Prompt: *Think of one character that demonstrates leadership abilities and displays leadership characteristics. In a five paragraph essay, explain how this character shows these abilities and characteristics and how these character traits lead to a positive or negative outcome in the plot.*

Assignment #2: For the second book that you read, you will create a mind map. Directions for creating a mind map are attached.

6th grade Book Choices:

Chinese Cinderella (Adeline Yen Mah) NONFICTION
Bud Not Buddy (Christopher Paul Curtis)
The Egypt Game (Zilpha Keatley Snyder)
Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry (Mildred D. Taylor)
Al Capone Does my Shirts (Gennifer Choldenko)
Bad Boy: A Memoir (Walter Dean Myer) NONFICTION

7th grade Book Choices:

Touch the Top of the World (Erik Weihenmayer) NONFICTION
The Giver (Lois Lowry)
Where the Red Fern Grows (Wilson Rawls)
Nothing but the Truth (Avi)
The Devil's Arithmetic (Jane Yolen)
Red Scarf Girl (Ji-li Jiang) NONFICTION

8th grade Book Choices:

Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl (Anne Frank) NONFICTION

Animal Farm (George Orwell)

The Chocolate War (Robert Cormier)

Slam! (Walter Dean Myers)

True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle (Avi)

Across Five Aprils (Irene Hunt) NONFICTION (Note: This book is technically historical fiction, but since it is based on true characters and events, it is classified here as non-fiction.)

MIND MAP INSTRUCTIONS:

A **Mind Map** is another way of “making notes” on a subject or a book, and it includes words, pictures, colors, and lines.

1. Write the title of the book you've read in the center of the page, and draw a circle around it. Think of this as your central subject.
2. As you think of major or important facts or events draw lines out from this circle. Label these lines with a phrase or sentence or drawing. Think of these lines as your major headings.
3. As you think deeper about the book and uncover more details, themes, etc. which belong to the major event lines you've already created, draw these smaller events/details as lines linked to the major event lines. The smaller events/details are your subheadings.
4. Finally, for individual facts or ideas, draw lines out from the appropriate subheading line and label them.
5. As you think about the book and look over your map, new information may come to mind; link it to the Mind Map appropriately.

NOTE: A complete Mind Map may have main topic lines radiating in all directions from the center. Sub-topics and facts will branch off these, like branches and twigs from the trunk of a tree. You do not need to worry about the structure produced, as this will evolve as you develop your mind map.

KEYS TO A GREAT MIND MAP:

- *Use single words or simple phrases for information:* In your Mind Map, single strong words and meaningful phrases can convey the meaning more clearly than full sentences. Excess words just clutter the Mind Map.
- *Print rather than write in cursive.*
- *Use color to separate different ideas:* This will help you to separate ideas where necessary. It also makes your Mind Map easier to remember. Color also helps to show the organization of the subject.
- *Use symbols and images:* Where a symbol or picture means something to you, use it. Pictures can help you to remember information more effectively than words.
- *Using cross-linkages:* Information in one part of the Mind Map may relate to another part. Here you can draw lines to show the cross-linkages. This helps you to see how one part of the subject connects with another.

Please go to the website below to view a sample mind map. This website is the source of this compiled information and can provide additional explanation as well.

http://www.mindtools.com/pages/article/newISS_01.htm

EXPOSITORY ESSAY FRAMEWORK

Introduction:

Engaging beginning (Hook)

Transitional sentence

Elaboration/Example/Detail (Optional)

Thesis statement

Body Paragraph:

Topic Sentence Statement (Main Idea Statement)

Support sentence

Facts/details

Elaboration/example

Details/closure/transition

Body Paragraph:

Topic Sentence Statement (Main Idea Statement)

Support sentence

Facts/details

Elaboration/example

Details/closure/transition

Body Paragraph:

Topic Sentence Statement (Main Idea Statement)

Support sentence

Facts/details

Elaboration/example

Details/closure/transition

Closing Paragraph

Restate **Thesis** or **Topic Sentences**

Restate main details

Transitional

Closing Sentence