

Summer Reading Packets

A Note on Plagiarism

ALL assignments in this packet are to be completed in your own words. If any section of this assignment was taken from a source other than yourself without the proper credit, it will be considered plagiarism. The packet will immediately be sent to the Deans' Office where the proper disciplinary procedures will be in effect.

You must cite any quotes taken from research or the novel at all times throughout this packet.

1.If the quote was taken from the novel:

1.Include the author's last name, the title of the novel, and the page number.

2.If the quote was taken from research:

1.Include the web article's title, the date of publication, the article's author's name, and the name of the website.

What is considered plagiarism?

Using any and all sources other than your own mind to write a response.

All of the assignments in this packet are geared towards helping you understand the novel **in depth and independently**. As you read the summer reading novel, have your packet with you. The sections in this packet must be completed in order as you read the novel. The summer reading packets will be collected the first day of class **for a grade**, and the assignments will be reviewed with the students the first week of school. Students will be tested on the reading material when the teacher feels the class should be ready to finish the summer reading unit.

Complete the section below with information on your novel:

Title: _____

Author: _____

Complete the section below with information about you:

First and Last Name: _____

Grade: 9 10 11 12

Level: Skills General Honors

Read and sign the Honor Code. By signing the Honor Code, you acknowledge that you understand our plagiarism policy as delineated in the school's handbook and you state that the work turned in is not plagiarized.

“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”

X _____

Assignment 1: The Author

In order to understand several aspects of a novel, such as the author's intention and the actions in the plot, you must learn about the author's life and time period in which the novel was written (or written about).

In bullet points, jot down notes about your research of the novel's author:

_____ (Author's Name)

Things to focus on:

- ✓The time period in which the author was writing
- ✓The economic/political conditions at that time
- ✓Cultural and religious influences affecting the author
- ✓The author's place in society
- ✓The author's upbringing and family history

When you have completed your research and the bulleted list, you will be better prepared to understand the novel and to begin the research paper process.

Assignment 2: Expanding Vocabulary

As you read the novel, highlight any vocabulary words that you do not understand. Write the words and define them in the space below. Then, copy the sentence where the vocabulary word was used, and explain how the word was used.

Word	Definition	Quote/Pg. #	Word Explained

Assignment 3: Symbolism

Symbolism is the use of symbols to represent something else, such as the dove representing peace, or the stars of the flag representing our 50 states.

As you read the novel, list symbolic objects and images you come across. This exercise also serves as practice for your research papers.

Pg. #	Symbol	<u>Your Interpretation</u>

Assignment 4: Point of View

The point of view of a story is very important - who is the person telling you the story? When the story is told in first person, the narrator uses the word “I” throughout, and the readers can only understand the story from the narrator’s perspective. When the story is told in third person, the narrator uses “he” or “she” throughout, and readers can see the story from multiple perspectives, known as the “objective third person” or readers can see the story only from the main character’s perspective, known as “subjective third person”.

1. From what point of view is this story told?
2. Select one scene from the story that you feel has an obvious tone. For example, you may find a scene where it is obvious that the character is upset or excited about something. Then, fill out the chart below about that specific scene you selected.
3. Finally, answer the question below the chart.

Chapter & Page #	
Character(s) in scene	
Scene summary	
Tone	
Key words from the scene that indicate tone	

How would the story change if the point of view were different? Do you think it would be better or worse? Explain your thoughts.

Assignment 5: Heroes and Heroines

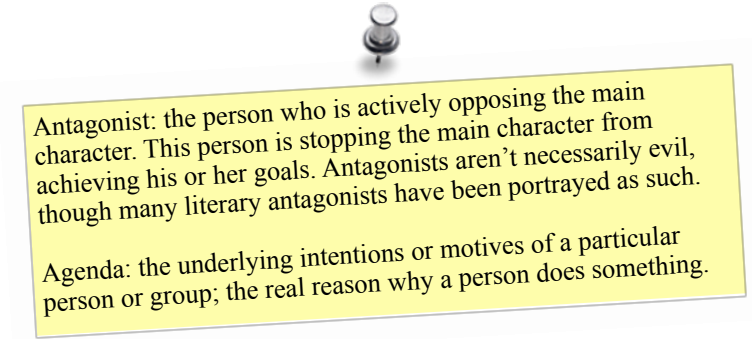
As you reach the halfway point of the novel, discuss what challenges the hero or heroine has had to overcome so far, or will have to overcome in the upcoming chapters.

For the challenges he or she has already overcome, how did he or she get through it?

For the challenges he or she will have to face, what do you think he or she will have to do to get through it?

Assignment 6: What's the Agenda?

What conflict and personal agenda motivate the antagonist(s) of this story? For this character, do the ends justify the means? If he or she gets what he or she wants, will it satisfy him or her?



Antagonist: the person who is actively opposing the main character. This person is stopping the main character from achieving his or her goals. Antagonists aren't necessarily evil, though many literary antagonists have been portrayed as such.

Agenda: the underlying intentions or motives of a particular person or group; the real reason why a person does something.

Assignment 7: The Protagonist

The protagonist of any story is the main character. This person always has a specific goal he or she wants to accomplish by the end of the story. The chart below focuses on the main character's personality as seen through multiple perspectives. Complete the chart below using your novel and your own thoughts.

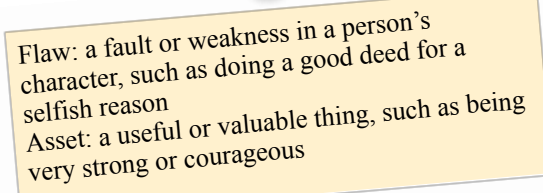
Write what the protagonist says and thinks about him/herself.

Write what other characters say and think about the main character.

Write what you think the protagonist's personality traits are.

Assignment 8: Vice and Virtue

What kinds of flaws do the characters of this book possess? Choose three characters from the story, and list one flaw and one asset for each. Provide an example for each flaw and asset.

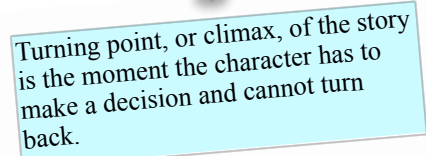


Flaw: a fault or weakness in a person's character, such as doing a good deed for a selfish reason
Asset: a useful or valuable thing, such as being very strong or courageous

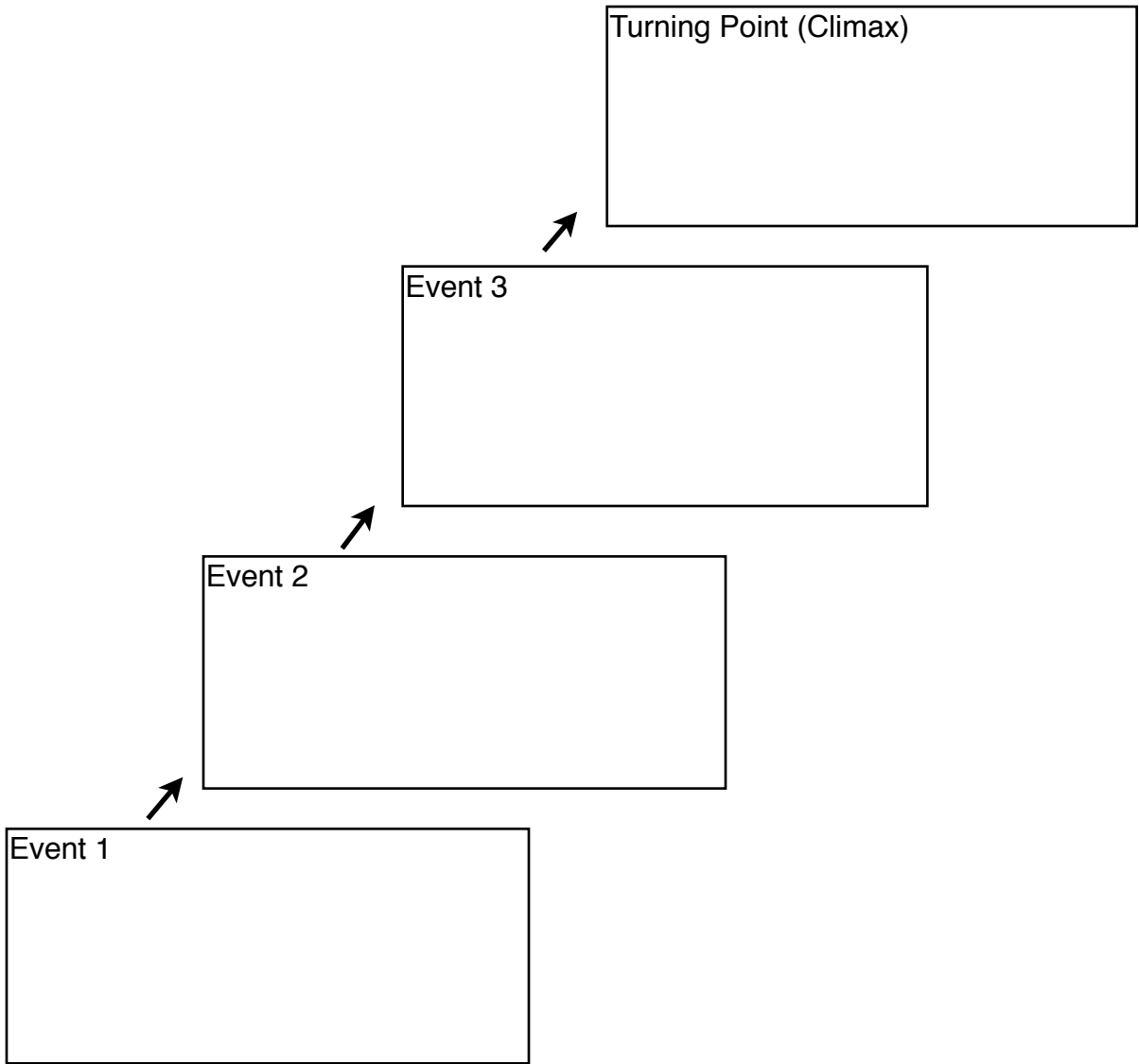
Character	Flaw	Asset

Assignment 9: The End is Near

Consider the turning point in the story you are reading. What key events in the story have led the protagonist to this moment? After listing those major events that pushed him or her in this direction, select one of those events and explain how the story would change if that event never occurred.



Turning point, or climax, of the story is the moment the character has to make a decision and cannot turn back.



If event # never happened, then...

Assignment 10: See, What Happened Was...

The falling action, or resolution, is what took place after the climax of the story. Once the character made his or her choice and stuck to it, what happened next? For each of the characters in your novel, write what happened, or what will happen, as a result of the climax in the story.

Assignment 11: And the Winner is...

Who was your favorite character? What was it you liked about this character? What qualities, characteristics, and traits do you share with this character? What makes you both different?

Describe someone you know who also has these characteristics.

Assignment 12: The Book Club

When you return to school, your literature class will become a “book club”. Along with your teacher, students will discuss all aspects of the book, everything from things you may not have understood to things you truly enjoyed about the book. In the space provided, write three open-ended questions you want to ask your class and your teacher about this book. An open-ended question is a question that requires discussion, not a “yes” or “no” question.

Here is an example of an open-ended question: What do you think was the most important event in the main character’s quest for freedom?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

