

SFMS Advanced English Summer Assignment Grade 7

The following activities may be either typed or neatly handwritten.

Part 1: (50 points possible)

Choose one of the prompts below and respond in at least 2 paragraphs:

1. Describe yourself as a writer. You might discuss what you like/dislike about writing, what kind of writing you prefer, or even how you approach writing tasks.
2. Describe yourself as a reader. You might discuss what you like/dislike about reading, what kind of texts you prefer, or even how you approach reading tasks.

Part 2: (50 points possible)

Choose a novel from the list located at the bottom of this document to read. In at least 3 paragraphs, analyze your reading using one of the following topics (**Note: You will also take a multiple choice test for the book during the first week of school.**) :

1. Sometimes the author of a novel can make readers love, hate, or feel sorry for a character or encourage readers to have some other strong emotional response. Choose a character from your novel and show how the author makes readers feel a particular emotion through his or her development in the story. When you plan your writing, begin by deciding on main ideas that support your thesis so you are not just summarizing the plot. (Sample main ideas: choices the character makes, the character's treatment of other characters, changes in the character.)
2. A theme is a statement about a subject. For example, "money" is a subject, but "money can't buy happiness" is a theme. Identify a theme represented in your novel, and discuss how the author develops it. When you plan your writing, begin by deciding on main ideas that support your thesis so you are not just summarizing the plot. (Sample main ideas: a character's choice, the result or consequences of an action, a change in a character.)

*Your analysis should use specific, documented examples from the novel to support the thesis statement of an organized essay. ****Academic honesty is very important.*****

Book Choices (choose ONE of the three):

1. [*The Call of the Wild*](#) by Jack London
2. *The Watsons Go to Birmingham-1963* by Christopher Paul Curtis
3. *The Midwife's Apprentice* by Karen Cushman

****In addition, all students will need to have a physical copy of the book [*Written in Bone: Buried Lives of Jamestown*](#) by Sally M. Walker by August 29, 2016. No ebooks, please.****