

Summer Reading

2009

Announcement:

All students enrolled in A.P. U.S. I for September must read *Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community, and War* by Nathaniel Philbrick. You are required to keep a journal, with entries for each chapter. A formal assignment will be given in September.

Our summer reading program provides students with the opportunity to maintain and sharpen their reading and thinking skills over the summer. Summer reading will be integrated into the curriculum. Therefore, all students are required to read the books for the class they are entering in the fall. Summer reading projects count for 20% of the first quarter grade.

All students must complete a graphic organizer for the books assigned. Graphic organizers are attached. Be prepared to write a Book Review, Character Analysis, or an Expository Essay on Theme either Monday, September 14 or Tuesday, September 15 in class. Your teacher will review the writing process on Friday, September 11. You must have your graphic organizer on the day you will be writing your review, analysis, or essay. The graphic organizer and essay will be handed in and graded.

A book review is not the same as a book report. In a review, you evaluate the book. It is not a summary of the book. Your review must explain how you feel about the book. It should persuade the reader to either read the book or avoid reading it. Use the following questions to help you write your review.

- Did you enjoy the book? Why or why not?
- What do you like or dislike about the author's writing style?
- What are your favorite or least favorite aspects of the book?
- Did you learn anything from this book? If so, how will this information be useful to you?

An expository essay follows the structure of introduction, body, and conclusion. The goal of an expository essay is to "expose" the topic in a way that makes the information clear to the writer's audience. Remember, an expository essay is always written in the third person.

When you analyze a character, you will need to review his or her nature or function in the story and relationships with other characters in the story. Explore all four levels of characterization: physical, social, psychological, and moral. At least four characteristics should be included in your analysis. Be sure to provide specific examples from the book that prove whether or not your character possesses these characteristics.

Class of 2013

English (be prepared to write a character analysis)

Tears of a Tiger- Sharon M. Draper

Biology (be prepared to write a book review)

The Bone Detectives- Donna M. Jackson

World History (be prepared to write an expository essay on theme)

Climbing the Mango Trees: A Memoir of a Childhood in India- Madhur Jaffrey

Class of 2012

English (be prepared to write a character analysis)

The Book Thief- Markus Zusak

Honors English (be prepared to write a character analysis)

Metamorphosis- Franz Kafka

Ellen Foster-Kaye Gibbons

Chemistry (be prepared to write an expository essay on theme)

Deception Point- Dan Brown

Religion (be prepared to write a book review)

The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens- Stephen Covey

Class of 2011

English (be prepared to write an expository essay on theme)

The Memory Keeper's Daughter- Kim Edwards

Honors English (be prepared to write a character analysis)

My Antonia- Willa Cather

Turn of the Screw- Henry James

Religion (be prepared to write an expository essay on theme)

Handle with Care- Jodi Picoult

Physical Education (be prepared to write a book review)

No Excuses: The True Story of a Congenital Amputee Who Became a Champion in Wrestling and Life- Kyle Maynard

Class of 2010

English (be prepared to write a character analysis)

The Confessions of Max Tivoli- Andrew Sean Greer

United States History II (be prepared to write a character analysis)

Truman- David McCullough

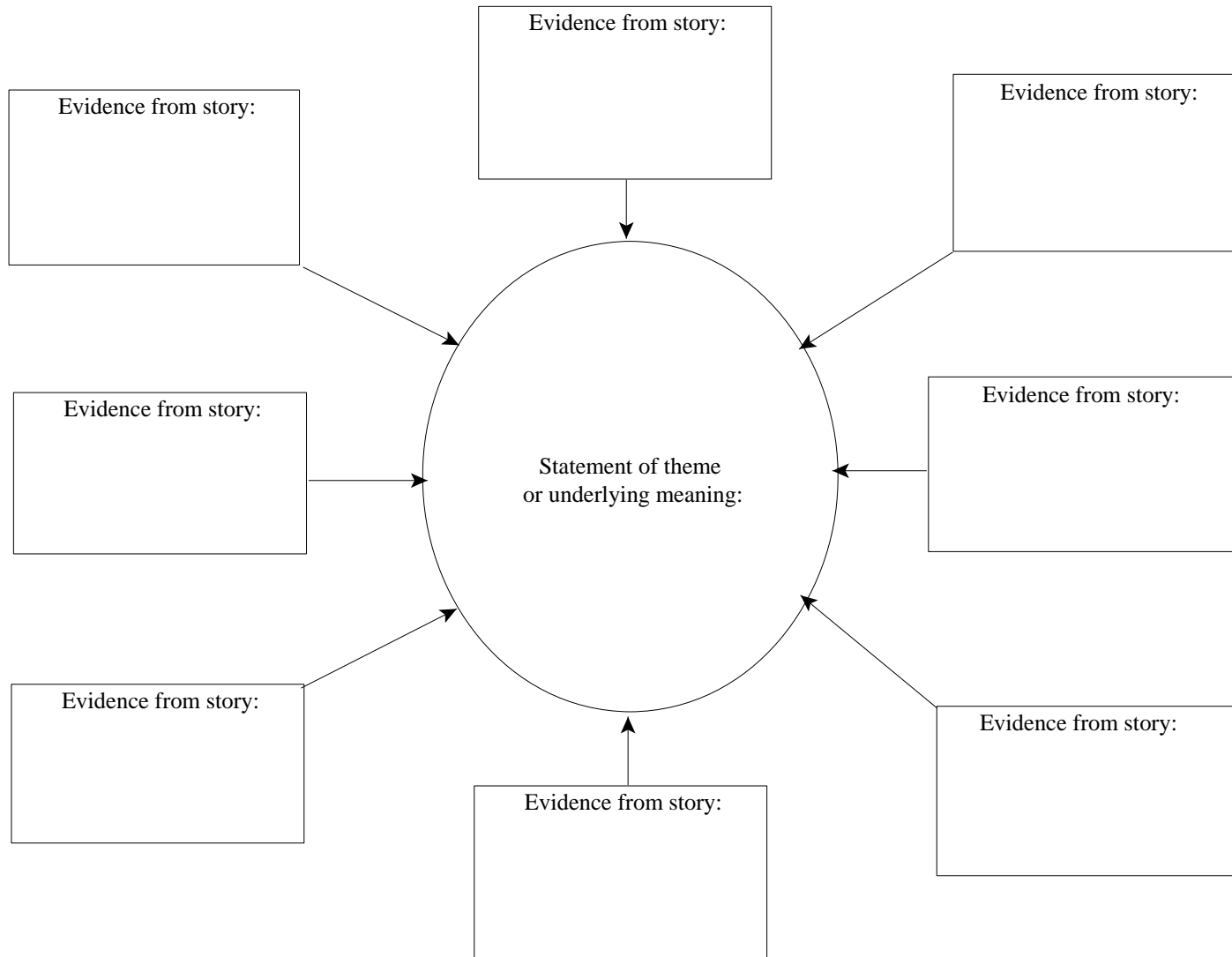
Advanced Placement United States History II (be prepared to write a book review)

The Jungle-Upton Sinclair

Religion (be prepared to write an expository essay on theme)

The Shack- Wm. Paul Young

Sample Graphic Organizer for Expository Essay on Theme



Writing Rubric

Name _____

	1 -- Does Not Meet	2 -- Partially Meets	3 -- Does Not Fully Meet	4 -- Meets	5 -- More Than Meets	6 -- Exceeds
Content / Ideas	Writing is extremely limited in communicating knowledge, with no central theme.	Writing is limited in communicating knowledge. Length is not adequate for development.	Writing does not clearly communicate knowledge. The reader is left with questions.	Writes related, quality paragraphs, with little or no details.	Writing is purposeful and focused. Piece contains some details.	Writing is confident and clearly focused. It holds the reader's attention. Relevant details enrich writing.
Organization	Writing is disorganized and underdeveloped with no transitions or closure.	Writing is brief and underdeveloped with very weak transitions and closure.	Writing is confused and loosely organized. Transitions are weak and closure is ineffective.	Uses correct writing format. Incorporates a coherent closure.	Writing includes a strong beginning, middle and end with some transitions and good closure. Purposeful use of word choice.	Writing includes a strong beginning, middle and end with clear transitions and a focused closure.
Vocabulary / Word Choice	Careless or inaccurate word choice, which obscures meaning.	Language is trite, vague or flat.	Shows some use of varied word choice.	Uses a variety of word choice to make writing interesting.	Purposeful use of word choice.	Effective and engaging use of word choice.
Voice	Writer's voice / point of view shows no sense of audience.	Writer's voice / point of view shows little sense of audience.	Writer's voice / point of view shows that sense of audience is vague.	Writer uses voice / point of view. Writes with the understanding of a specific audience.	Writer has strong voice / point of view. Writing engages the audience.	Writes with a distinct, unique voice / point of view. Writing is skillfully adapted to the audience.
Sentence Fluency	Frequent run-ons or fragments, with no variety in sentence structure.	Many run-ons or fragments. Little variety in sentence structure.	Some run-ons or fragments. Limited variety in sentence structure.	Uses simple, compound and complex sentences.	Frequent and varied sentence structure.	Consistent variety of sentence structure throughout.
Conventions	Parts of speech show lack of agreement. Frequent errors in mechanics. Little or no evidence of spelling strategies.	Inconsistent agreement between parts of speech. Many errors in mechanics. Limited evidence of spelling strategies.	Occasional errors between parts of speech. Some errors in mechanics. Some evidence of spelling strategies.	Maintains agreement between parts of speech. Few errors in mechanics. Applies basic grade level spelling.	Consistent agreement between parts of speech. Uses correct punctuation, capitalization, etc. Consistent use of spelling strategies.	Uses consistent agreement between parts of speech. No errors in mechanics. Creative and effective use of spelling strategies.

Graphic Organizer -- Character Analysis

Character's Name	Background Information	Accomplishments	Abilities	Characteristics

Graphic Organizer -- Book Review

Book Title _____

Chapter Title or Number	Main Idea of Chapter	Thoughts / Questions