

## M.S. 936 Arts Off Third Summer Reading Assignment

### Incoming 6th Graders: Amina's Voice

To successfully complete this year's summer reading assignment, you will keep a journal (on looseleaf paper) as you read. In this journal, you will record your reactions to the reading by using the questions below as your prompts. The journal will help you in several significant ways:

- English teachers use the summer reading assignment as the basis for a grade worth 5-10% of your quarter one average.
- You can improve your critical thinking and close reading skills through journal responses.

Use the prompts below as the basis for your journal entries. You must respond to at least **five** of the prompts for credit. **Do not summarize the book.** Summaries will not be accepted for credit.

#### SUMMER READING JOURNAL PROMPTS

- **Date each entry**
  - **Respond to at least five different prompts of your choice**
  - **Fully develop with examples and explanations of the examples**
  - **Each response must include textual evidence cited with the page number**
  - **Each response will be at least a half page and no longer than one page in length**
1. How are the characters developing? Do you dislike certain characters? Do the characters change or behave differently over the course of the story? How are the events or other characters influencing or motivating the characters?
  2. Are there repeating ideas, images, or objects? Why do you think the author is repeating them? What do you think of the author's decision to repeat them?
  3. Does a character remember something that interrupts the story? Why might this memory be important?
  4. Do characters realize something that shifts their actions or understanding of themselves, others, or the world around them? How might this change things?
  5. What are the problems in the book? Why are these problems developing? Are these problems internal (within the characters) or external (from outside sources)?
  6. Does a character receive advice from an older or wiser person? What is the message or lesson?
  7. Can you relate to any of the characters? Do parts of the book remind you of yourself or others? Why? Can you feel what any of the characters are feeling?
  8. Who is the narrator of the book? Why do you think the author selected this perspective and what effect does it have? Would a different narrator improve the book?
  9. Write a letter to one of the characters. Include three specific events of which the character was a part. Comment on the character's response to events or offer advice. Ask questions.
  10. If you could be one of the characters for one day, who would you be and why? Who would you definitely not be and why? Explain your choices.
  11. What would you change in the story? How would you improve it?

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Summer Reading Rubric					
	20 points	15 points	10 points	5 points	0 points
Journal Response 1	Response is <b>specific</b> and <b>richly</b> developed; refers to <b>strong</b> examples from the text; response provides documentation ( <b>page number</b> )	Response is <b>fully</b> developed; refers to <b>appropriate</b> examples from the text; response provides documentation ( <b>page number</b> )	Response is <b>partially</b> developed; cites an example from the text, but the <b>example may not connect completely</b> to the question; provides <b>documentation</b>	Response <b>lacks specific examples</b> from the text; response is <b>general; no documentation</b>	Shows little or no evidence that the student read the text thoughtfully OR student did not respond to the prompt
Journal Response 2	Response is <b>specific</b> and <b>richly</b> developed; refers to <b>strong</b> examples from the text; response provides documentation ( <b>page number</b> )	Response is <b>fully</b> developed; refers to <b>appropriate</b> examples from the text; response provides documentation ( <b>page number</b> )	Response is <b>partially</b> developed; cites an example from the text, but the <b>example may not connect completely</b> to the question; provides <b>documentation</b>	Response <b>lacks specific examples</b> from the text; response is <b>general; no documentation</b>	Shows little or no evidence that the student read the text thoughtfully OR student did not respond to the prompt
Journal Response 3	Response is <b>specific</b> and <b>richly</b> developed; refers to <b>strong</b> examples from the text; response provides documentation ( <b>page number</b> )	Response is <b>fully</b> developed; refers to <b>appropriate</b> examples from the text; response provides documentation ( <b>page number</b> )	Response is <b>partially</b> developed; cites an example from the text, but the <b>example may not connect completely</b> to the question; provides <b>documentation</b>	Response <b>lacks specific examples</b> from the text; response is <b>general; no documentation</b>	Shows little or no evidence that the student read the text thoughtfully OR student did not respond to the prompt
Journal Response 4	Response is <b>specific</b> and <b>richly</b> developed; refers to <b>strong</b> examples from the text; response provides documentation ( <b>page number</b> )	Response is <b>fully</b> developed; refers to <b>appropriate</b> examples from the text; response provides documentation ( <b>page number</b> )	Response is <b>partially</b> developed; cites an example from the text, but the <b>example may not connect completely</b> to the question; provides <b>documentation</b>	Response <b>lacks specific examples</b> from the text; response is <b>general; no documentation</b>	Shows little or no evidence that the student read the text thoughtfully OR student did not respond to the prompt
Journal Response 5	Response is <b>specific</b> and <b>richly</b> developed; refers to <b>strong</b> examples from the text; response provides documentation ( <b>page number</b> )	Response is <b>fully</b> developed; refers to <b>appropriate</b> examples from the text; response provides documentation ( <b>page number</b> )	Response is <b>partially</b> developed; cites an example from the text, but the <b>example may not connect completely</b> to the question; provides <b>documentation</b>	Response <b>lacks specific examples</b> from the text; response is <b>general; no documentation</b>	Shows little or no evidence that the student read the text thoughtfully OR student did not respond to the prompt
<i>Extra Credit</i>	<i>Response is <b>specific</b> and <b>richly</b> developed; refers to <b>strong</b> examples from the text; response provides documentation (<b>page number</b>)</i>	<i>Response is <b>fully</b> developed; refers to <b>appropriate</b> examples from the text; response provides documentation (<b>page number</b>)</i>	<i>Response is <b>partially</b> developed; cites an example from the text, but the <b>example may not connect completely</b> to the question; provides <b>documentation</b></i>	<i>Response <b>lacks specific examples</b> from the text; response is <b>general; no documentation</b></i>	<i>Shows little or no evidence that the student read the text thoughtfully OR student did not respond to the prompt</i>

Total Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: