

Eighth Grade Summer Reading

Choose TWO books in consultation with your seventh grade English teacher. Aim for one book that challenges your skills as a reader and one that is aimed at your reading level. You may read fiction, non-fiction, collections of short stories or poems. Your choice.

After you read each book, write responses to the following questions. You should have TWO response sheets, one for each book.

These responses are due in the first week of school next fall. If you have any questions, or want to change one of your titles, please call Ms. Ledwell at (508) 548-9086 or email her at scottish7@verizon.net .

- At the top of each page, list **your name, the title, and the author of the book** you've read.
- **In TEN sentences or fewer, describe the major plot of the novel.** Get to the important incidents, naming characters and places and BRIEFLY describing situations. You needn't recount the entire story.
- **In a brief paragraph, explain the theme of the novel.** (Remember that THEME is not the same as PLOT. In this paragraph, discuss the author's ideas about society, human nature, or some other larger idea beyond the specific of the plot.)
- **BRIEFLY explain which parts of the novel were difficult for you, if any, and which parts were most enjoyable.** (Four to five sentences will be plenty here.)
- **EXPLAIN why you would recommend this novel to a friend.** This explanation should take about a half a page or so (typed, double spaced). Be brief, but specific.
 - **You should refer to specific, important events in your recommendation.**
 - **You may wish to discuss the author's style, where appropriate.**
 - **You should explain why you chose the book and what you liked about it.** Show potential readers why it is worth their time.
 - **If you struggled through a novel you didn't particularly like, feel free to discuss why this novel isn't one of your favorites.**