

Rising 8th grade Summer Reading and Assignment

Rising 8th Graders!!!

The following is your summer reading assignment.

Step 1: Please purchase the book [Warriors Don't Cry](#)- If you choose to purchase the book from another site- make sure you purchase this edition as some are abridged. Even if you are listening to it- please have a hard copy too.

Step 2: This is an autobiographical account of what it was like to be part of the integration movement in a high school in Little Rock, Arkansas in 1957. To understand the context of the book, please watch [this video](#) **BEFORE** reading the book.



This is the statue of the Little Rock 9 at the State Capital in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Step 3: Your written assignment is to create a Commonplace Book which is a booklet that allows you to share 3 quotes that were the most meaningful to you from the book. You will take the quotes and create a reflection paragraph for each one. More explanation is provided below.

How to Construct a Commonplace (Quote) Book

(adapted from an assignment designed by Lucia Knoles)

What is "Commonplacing" and what is a Commonplace Book?

Commonplacing is the act of selecting important phrases, lines, and/or passages from texts and writing them down; the commonplace book is the notebook in which a reader has collected quotations from works s/he has read. Commonplace books can also include comments and notes from the reader.

How do I construct my Commonplace Book?

First: Pick THREE 2- 3-sentence quotations from the book. These should be quotations that you have a strong reaction to and that you can write 50-75 words about. The quotations should also be from the beginning, middle, and end of the book.

Second: Write or type each quotation at the top of a sheet of paper.

Third: Write a 75- 100-word response to each of your selected quotations.

Consider these questions as you write about the quote:

- Why did you choose this quote?
- Give a brief description of the context of this quote (what happens before the quote)
- Have you ever been in a similar situation as described in the quote?
- How would you have handled the situation?
- How did this quote help us understand how people were feeling about integration?
- If this is a quote from a character speaking, how does it help you get a deeper understanding of that character?
- How does this quote help the author attain her purpose in writing the book?

Can I express my own opinions in my commonplace logs?

Commonplace books have always been used as places where readers can explore new ideas and test old ways of thinking rather than simply as places to vent opinions. Of course, an "opinion" presented in a persuasive fashion and supported by reasoning and evidence is an argument and

not an opinion. So go ahead and communicate your thoughts in a way that persuades other people to accept them or at least give them serious consideration.

Organization

Treat each response as a paragraph with a main idea (first sentence), details and explanations, and a concluding sentence that sums it all up.

Do Style and Grammar Count?

Yes! You may use an informal style as long as you write in a way that does not undermine your credibility as a commentator. (Significant grammar problems will affect your readability and your credibility.) In sum: Use complete sentences and capital letters where needed. NO ABBREVIATIONS. However, “colloquial” (informal) “diction” (word choice) is perfectly fine.

Presentation

Each quotation should be on its own page. Make sure you include a cover page with your name at the top of the page. Staple the pages together before handing in. NEATNESS COUNTS.