

7th Grade Honors ELA Summer Reading and Assignments

Welcome to 7th Grade Honors ELA. We hope you have a great summer, and we would also like to introduce your first requirements, which consist of reading a novel and completing two assignments related to the reading that will be turned in the **first week of school**. In addition to having completed both reading and assignments these assignments will be graded. This will be your first ELA Honors grade.

Required Reading (Step 1):

Please read the novel listed below for your assignment:

- *All of the Above*, by Shelley Pearsall

You will need to obtain the book *All of the Above* by Shelley Pearsall. This novel may be obtained through libraries, used or local bookstores, or online. They are currently available at the Knox County Library and through Amazon.

Project Requirements (Step 2):

Look at the essay questions and choose the one you want to answer. Then, choose the one Project Essay Organizer that will best help you to answer the essay question at the end. You will be completing this organizer as you read the novel and answering an essay question when you are finished. You will be turning in the organizer with the completed essay.

Choose One Essay Graphic Organizers:

1- Character Chart-As you read you will be required to keep a character chart. Choose three of the main characters to describe their character traits and support their traits with text evidence. Make sure you include the page number next to each piece of text evidence. Refer to the character chart example using *Hatchet*.

2-Character Event Chart-After you read, choose one character from the story to follow through the book and describe the events they go through. You will want to choose events they are involved in or that might change their character. You will need to pick a minimum of three events, describe how the event changes the character, and include a piece of text evidence to support the event/change. You will need to describe the character at the beginning of the book and then again at the end of the book.

3-Evidence Tracker-As you read use the organizer to help you track evidence to prepare you for the essay you will be writing. Make sure to always include the page number from the text when using a quote or summarizing a section.

The following are examples of how you will complete the character chart using the novel *Hatchet*. You will do the same charts using the novel *All of the Above* instead.

Character Chart:

Character:	Character Traits:	Text Evidence to Support:
Brian	Optimistic	"They would soon find him. Maybe not tomorrow, but soon. Soon. Soon." (50)
The pilot	Helpless	"And now a jolt took him like a hammerblow, so forceful that he seemed to crush back into the seat."(10)
Brian	Resourceful	"Wrapped in the jacket, with darkness coming down fast now, he crawled in under the rock and huddled and tried to sleep."(61)

Character Event Chart:

Choose one character from the character chart to use.

Character Brian

Describe the Character in the beginning.

In the beginning of the story Brian is a city boy who knows nothing about survival. He is scared and thought he was going to die.



Event #1

The plane is going down and Brian has to think fast in order to survive. He keeps the lake in sight and tries to land the plane on the lake.

How does this change the character?

Brian realizes that he is a survivor.

Text Evidence to support event #1 (include the page number).

"The crash is over and I am alive, he thought." (31)

"I am alive, he thought. I'm alive. It could have been different. There could have been death. I could have been done." (33)



Event #2

How does this change the character?

Text Evidence to support event #1 (include the page number).



Event #3	How does this change the character?
-----------------	--

Text Evidence to support event #1 (include the page number).



Describe the character at the end.

Essay Question Assignment (Step 3)

AFTER you have read your book and completed one organizer, you will select from **ONE** of the following essays. Before you write your essay make sure to refer to the Essay Outline. This will organize your thoughts before you write your essay. Then, use the organizer and outline to answer **ONE** essay question below:

1. Pick a scene in which you disagreed how a character handled a situation/person- Explain why you disagreed with how the character handled the situation/person.
2. Which character is most important to the story? Using text evidence argue or explain why the this character is important to the story?
3. Select an important character from the story. Explain how the character has changed throughout the story.
4. What is the theme of (insert novel name)? Be sure to include a thesis in your introduction listing three reasons to support your response.

EX: The theme of social injustice in The Outsiders can be found through S.E. Hinton's depiction of

- class society warfare, (first reason to be supported in body paragraph #1)
- poverty vs wealth, (second reason to be supported in body paragraph #2)
- and the redemption of Ponyboy and Johnny. (Third reason to be supported in paragraph #3)

Planning Your Essay

As you begin to plan your essay, here are some questions that will help you develop your thesis statement. Using these questions will help you to complete the analysis process that is essential to developing an honors level essay.

- What were the reasons you disagreed with the how the character handled a specific situation in the book?
What reasons
- What is the *cause* of the differences and *why* does it matter?

Requirements for the Essay

Your essay should contain an introduction, 3 body paragraphs, and conclusion. Use the outline to help you plan your writing. You should include evidence from the text to support your thesis and for your body paragraphs. Your essay may either be handwritten or can be typed you can also share it with your teacher through *Google Docs* (not required).. The name of your Doc – not the title of your essay – should be your first and last name and the assignment name. If you are not able to type, a NEATLY handwritten copy that is double-spaced will be accepted. Your essay will be scored using the TCAP/WA Informational/Explanatory Rubric – Grades 6-8 from the state of Tennessee.

Google Docs *NOT REQUIRED

If you are familiar with google docs you are welcome to use it and share it with your teacher. You may share your reports with your teacher once you find out what ELA teacher you have at any time over the break – you do not have to wait until the school year begins: amy.layton@knoxschools.org or robin.loving@knoxschools.org emily.dennison@knoxschools.org or tammy.harther@knoxschools.org. When you share your Doc with your teacher, you'll need to click on the "Can edit" button and a drop down menu will appear. Select "can comment" then, share your Doc with me.

All assignments must be completed and turned in the first week of school.

Again, we welcome you to 7th grade Honors ELA and we are so excited to get to know each one of you as we begin the 2018-2019 school year. If you have any questions over the summer, please feel free to contact us:

amy.layton@knoxschools.org or robin.loving@knoxschools.org or emily.dennison@knoxschools.org or tammy.harther@knoxschools.org

Happy Reading!

Character Chart

Character:	Character Traits:	Text Evidence to Support:

Character Event Chart:

Choose one character from the character chart to use.

Character _____

Describe the Character in the beginning.



Event #1

How does this change the character?

Text Evidence to support event #1 (include the page number).



Event #2

How does this change the character?

Text Evidence to support event #1 (include the page number).



Event #3

How does this change the character?

Text Evidence to support event #1 (include the page number).



Describe the character at the end.

HMS Essay Outline

Introduction

Hook

Background (Name it, verb it, main idea of text)

Thesis with subtopics (Main idea of essay)

Body

Transition

Topic sentence

Evidence /Elaboration X 3

Concluding sentence

Conclusion

Transition

Restate thesis (Main idea of essay)

Concluding Statement (Clincher, Zinger, Wrap it up)

***Remember your assignment is a FIVE PARAGRAPH ESSAY. You will need THREE BODY paragraphs.**

7th Grade Honors Summer Assignment Checklist

Checklist of what is required by the first week of school:

_____ Read *All of the Above*

_____ ONE Graphic Organizer (Character Chart or Character Event Chart or Evidence Tracker)

_____ Multi-paragraph Essay over ONE Essay Question. Use the HMS Outline and Graphic Organizer to complete.

**7th Grade Honors ELA
Parent Letter**

Dear Parent/Guardian:

We are writing to introduce the first requirements for 7th Grade Honors ELA, which consist of reading a novel and completing two assignments related to the reading which **will be turned in the first week of school**.

Required Reading:

Your child will be reading *All of the Above* by Shelley Pearsall. Novels may be obtained through libraries, used or local bookstores, or online.

When deciding upon the title for the summer reading, the goal was to provide a reading experience that would be challenging, interesting, and life applicable to students. Especially due to the fact that it is an honors course, the students are expected to be mature readers.

Your child was given a paper explaining the assignments for the novel. Please take the time to read over his/her requirements and encourage your child to complete the assignments in a reasonable amount of time. **Please be aware that all assignments are due during the first week of school.** We are excited for what the 2018-2019 school year holds and can't wait to get to know our students.

Sincerely,

7th Grade ELA Teachers

Please sign and return by Friday, May 18th.

I have read and understand the summer reading requirements for 7th Grade Honors ELA. I also understand that all assignments are due the first week of school and my failure to complete these assignments will result in a penalty to my grade. I also understand that it is my responsibility to obtain the book for this project.

Student Signature _____

Date: _____

I have read and understand the summer reading requirements for 7th Grade Honors ELA. I also understand that all assignments are due the first week of school and failure to complete these assignments will result in a penalty to my child's grade. I also understand that it is my and my child's responsibility to obtain the book for this project.

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____