**INDEPENDENT READING PROJECT**

Objective: In lieu of the Literature Circles for the second half of the third 9 weeks, you will complete an independent reading project instead. Each student will read an assigned book from the literature circle list.

1. You will be required to read a novel. This book will be read on your own, although I will provide silent Independent Reading Project time at various times in the next few weeks. You will know the dates ahead of time.
2. For your project, you must submit: a reading summary; a double-entry journal; and one of the projects you choose. The list of projects are included.
3. The entire project is worth 100 points. The first 40 points will be for your book report form and summary. The second 25 points will be for your double-entry journal. The final 35 points will be for your project. There is a rubric on the back of the project form.
4. You must turn in the book report form and the summary with the project.

**Independent Reading Project Due Dates:**

**These dates are absolutes! This means that your project is absolutely due on that day and may NOT be turned in late. The only exception is if school is cancelled due to inclement weather (or other last minute school circumstances). If school is only delayed, you must still bring your project on the due date.**

**Summary (40 points)**

Summary Instructions: (4 summary paragraphs)

On a separate sheet of paper, you need to provide a summary of your book for the first, second, third, and fourth quarter. You must write a paragraph. The summary must be in your own words and will be completed on the following dates: 2/16, 2/23, 3/2, and 3/9. Be sure to focus on the characters, conflicts and general plot of each section. We will provide you with the information you will need to include – it will change for each week. **Do not plagiarize or you will receive a score of zero!!!**

Points Breakdown for summary:

1. Comprehension of story/Using details in your own writing. You should include the main points, major plot points, setting, literary devices used, and conclusion of the book. (8 points)
2. Punctuation, grammar, and spelling (2 points)

**Double Entry Journals (25 points)**

Directions: As you read your novel, you will maintain a copy of this log with a record of quotes and meaningful connections. This needs to be typed and submitted to turnit.com for credit and will be due on Friday, March16. I will also collect books on this date.

* You must have a total of five entries for your book (5 points per entry)
* Choose five quotes evenly distributed throughout the book
* Each quote from the novel must be 2 – 4 sentences in length
* For each quote, choose one of the analysis options
* The completed double entry form must be typed and submitted to turnitin.com. You may format it as a two-column chart or type the quote and, under it, type your response.
* You must have at least one entry for each of the analysis options and you must write at least three of the entries by answering the “Insights” option.

Analysis Option #1: Exploring the Personal Response

1. Quote (with page number): Select text that seems to hint at bigger meanings (themes) and/or resonates with you as an individual.
2. Insights: What bigger idea does the author try to reveal through this quote? How does this quote fit into the bigger context of the chapter or the work? **OR**

Connections: Where else do you see this bigger idea? Consider literature, music, history, and other areas of cultural literacy. (one paragraph)

Analysis Option #2: Clarifying the Text

1. Quote (with page number): Select text that requires clarification
2. Insights: Puzzle through the quote – look at the connotation and denotation of the words. Use the individual meanings to synthesize your response into a cohesive interpretation **OR** Connections: What other experiences are similar and can help shed light on this quote? (one paragraph)

Analysis Option #3: Analyzing the Text

1. Quote (with page number): Select a quote that seems to be layered with detail and tone.
2. Insights: Pull apart the quote and think about what choices the author makes (diction, syntax, and figurative language) to communicate his/her idea **OR** Connections: compare/contrast the author’s style to another author you have read for Lit Circles this year (one paragraph)

**Project Options: (35 points)**

Directions: For each of these written projects, you are to write a thorough answer – typed, double spaced, two pages. Fully answer the prompt(s) and demonstrate insight about your book. These are not formal essay topics, so you may use personal pronouns (“I” or “my) and write from a personal perspective. However, you must focus your writing on specific details from your book and use language appropriate for a school assignment (i.e., avoid vague, weak words such as “stuff” or “got” or informal words such as “gonna”). Due Friday, March 16, 2018.

1. **What is the book saying about people or the world?**

Refer to specific situations, characters, or other literary elements in the book to support your answer. In addition to supporting details, include a quote from at least one passage in the book that reflects the theme you have identified. Be sure to include the page number of your quote. Here are a few topics that are typically addressed by literary works: acceptance, alienation, betrayal, choices, conformity, courage, cowardice, fear, friendship, fate, individuality, loyalty, relationships, responsibility, growth, and truth.

1. **Explain how a character changes from the beginning to the end of the novel.**

Describe at least three specific events and explain how each event affects your character. Include specific examples from the three different events and discuss each event fully.

1. **Write about a character of whom you do not approve.**

Analyze three situations from the story to explain what you think is wrong about the character’s actions, behavior, and/or values. Explain why you think the character is acting/thinking that way and what you think is wrong with his/her actions/thoughts. What do you suggest as a more favorable response, behavior, or value?

1. **Conflict Timeline**

Choose one of the following types of conflict: man vs. man, man vs. himself, man vs. society, man vs. nature. Make a timeline that charts the history of the “battles” that took place throughout the novel for this type of conflict. For each “battle,” indicate who wins and write a one-two paragraph analysis of the final outcome of this conflict.