**Book Report (Due at the end of each Month)**

**Student Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Title of Book**:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Author**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Month:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Direction: Book Report and Vocabulary Activity must be completed each month**

**Genre**:

***Fiction***

* Comics/Graphic Novels
* Historical Fiction
* Horror/Tragedy
* Mystery
* Realistic Fiction
* Science Fiction

***Nonfiction***

* Autobiography
* Biography
* Informational/Magazine

**Book Report Summary (Required for Each Book Report)**

**Fiction**

* The title, autor, author’s message or theme in a complete sentence
* The setting and main characters
* The problem, attempts to solve it, results and resolution

**Nonfiction**

* The title, autor, and main idea
* An explanation of how the book is organized
* An explanation of how the non-fiction text features help you understand and find information in the book.

**Book Report (Fiction) Alternatives**

**1. Character astrology signs.**  After reading brief descriptions of the astrology or sun signs, figure out which signs you think three of the main characters from your book were born under. Write an explanation of why you think they fit the sign, drawing on their actions, attitudes, and thoughts from the book.

**2. Heroes and superheroes.**  Select two or three people your character would think of as a hero or superhero. Describe the characteristics of the hero and why those characteristics would be important to your character. Also describe which characteristics your character would most want for himself/herself that the hero or superhero possesses.

**3. Create a childhood for a character.** If your main character is an adult, try to figure out what he or she would have been like as a child. Write the story of his or her child- hood in such a way that shows why he or she is the way he or she is in the novel.

**4. Social worker’s report.** If the events in the novel merit it, write up a report as a social worker would on the conditions in the home and whether or not it’s a good environment for a child. What would her recommendations be?

**5. School counselor’s recommendation letter.** Write a summary appraisal from the school counselor’s point of view that assesses the character’s academic and personal qualities and promise for study in college. The college is particularly interested in evidence about character, relative maturity, integrity, independence, values, special interest, and any noteworthy talents or qualities. Why do you feel this student would be well suited to attend college?

**6. Talk show invitation.** Select a character, think about his or her involvements and experiences, and then figure out which talk show would most want your character on as a guest. What would they want the character to talk about? Who else would they invite on the show to address the issues the character is involved in? Write up the correspondence between the talk show host and the character in which the host explains what the character should focus on while on the show. After the show, have them exchange one more letter mentioning how they felt about what happened.

**7. Movie recommendations.**  From all the movies you’ve seen in the last couple of years, pick five you would recommend that your character see. Give a brief summary of each movie and explain why you think the character should see it.

**8. Title acrostic.** Take a sheet of construction paper and write the title of the book down the side of the paper. For each letter in the title, construct a sentence that begins with that letter and that tells some- thing significant about the story.

**9. Cartoon squares.** Create a series of six drawings in six squares that shows a significant event in the novel. Under each picture or cartoon, write a few lines of explanation.

**10. Word collage.** Write the title of the book in the center of a sheet of paper. Then look through magazines for words, phrases, and sentences that illustrate or tell some- thing about your book. As you look, think in terms of the theme, setting, plot line, as well as characters. Work to get fifty such words, phrases, or sentences so the whole sheet of paper will be covered. The visual impact of the collage should tell a potential reader a lot about the book.

**11. Awards.** Create an award for each of the main characters based on their actions in the novel. One might be awarded “most courageous” for fighting peer pressure, another might be awarded “wisest” for the guidance he or she gave other characters. For each award, write a paragraph that explains why this character deserves this award.

**12. Dream vacation.** Where do you think your character would most like to go on a vacation? Pick a spot, describe it, and explain why he or she would want to go there or download information from the Internet on the place. Then write a day-by-day itinerary of what the character would do each day and why you think the character would enjoy this activity.

**13. Photos or magazine pictures.** Find two or three photos or magazine pictures that would have special significance to your character. Mount them on a sheet of paper and write an explanation of why they would be important to your character.

**14. Poetry.** Write three poems in response to the novel. The poems can be about the characters, where the book took place, or the themes in the book.

**15. Twenty questions.** Three classmates are each assigned the role of one of the characters in the book. You and your fellow classmates have to figure out which person is which character. Only 20 questions may be used. Create the questions that you and your classmates can use to figure out the identity of each of the three students.

**16. Talk to the author.** Write a letter to the author of the book explaining to him or her why you think he or she wrote the book and what he or she was trying to show through the book. Be sure to explain what you got out of the book. If the author is still alive, send the letter to the author via the publisher of the book.

**17. Point of view column.**  Write an opinion column like those that appear on the editorial page of the newspaper. Choose a theme or topic from the novel you just read and write the column from the point of view of one of the characters. Your character might write about the importance of education or why we should accept people who are not like us.

**18. Make up a word test for the novel.** Think of fifteen words that are essential to the understanding of the book. Explain why you picked the words you did and how you would define them in terms of the story.

**19. Name analysis.** Select a few of the characters from the novel. Look up each of their names in a name book to see what the name means. Write all the meanings down and then write a short essay for each character explaining in what ways the name is suitable and in what ways the name does not fit the character.

**20. Current events.** Select five current news or feature stories from television or news magazines that you think your character would be interested in. Then explain how your character would respond to each of the stories and the opinions your character would have about what was happening in the story.

**21. Draw a scene.** If you are artistic, think of an important scene and draw it the way you see it. Place the characters in the scene too and then figure out where you were in relation to the characters when you read the book. Then write or tape your explanations of why you drew the scene the way you did and why you think you were where you were in the scene. What does it tell you about who you related to in the novel?

**22. New acquaintances.** Select two characters. Then think about three to five people, living or dead that you would like your characters to meet. Write about how you selected these new acquaintances and what you’d like the character to learn from the people you introduced him or her to.

**23. Detective work.** If a detective or police officer suddenly showed up in your novel, who or what would they be investigating? Write about what the detective is looking for, how he or she knew something was awry or needed investigating, and what was re- commended. For example, in *Spite Fences,* a detective could show up at Maggie’s home to investigate the physical abuse or an undercover policeman could be in town investigating civil rights violations.

**24. Create a character’s room.** We learn a lot about people by what they keep in their closets, what they have on their walls, what they select to put in a room. Select a character you know well and create a living room, bedroom, kitchen, or some other room that would mean a lot to the character. Draw it or write about it, making sure to include an explanation of why you designed the room as you did.

**25. Photo album.** Think about the events that happened in your novel. Decide which scenes or pictures from the novel a character would want to remember. Then draw several of these “photos” for an album page or write about which pictures the character would want in his or her album.

**26. A character alphabet.** Choose a character you liked and then create sentences based on the alphabet scheme that demonstrate your knowledge of the character.

**27. Talk to the author.** Write a letter to the author of the book explaining to him or her why you think he or she wrote the book and what he or she was trying to show through the book. Be sure to explain what you got out of the book. If the author is still alive, send the letter to the author via the publisher of the book.

**28. Write a different ending for the book.**

**29. Write a letter or email to a close friend recommending the book you have just read.**

**30. Design a poster or new book cover depicting the climax of the story.**

**Activity choices for Vocabulary**

* Use the five new words in your Book report and underline them.
* Look up 5 words in a dictionary and choose the meaning that you think pertains to the text you are reading, write its definition and then write one sentence for each vocabulary word.
* Find 5 new vocabulary words and complete the “Four Square” (Synonym, Antonym, Example, Illustration)
* Create a Poem or a Rap song using the 5 new words correctly.
* Find the affixes/roots of your new 5 words and write their meaning.

***January***

***Fiction***

* Comics/Graphic Novels: Oct. (K-M)
* Historical Fiction: Oct. (N-P)
* Horror/Tragedy: Oct. (Q-S)
* Mystery: Oct. (T-V)
* Realistic Fiction: Oct. (W-Z)
* Science Fiction: Oct. (A-C)

***Nonfiction***

* Autobiography: Oct. (D-G)
* Biography: Oct. (D-G)
* Informational/Magazine: Oct. (H-J)

***December***

***Fiction***

* Comics/Graphic Novels: Oct. (H-J)
* Historical Fiction: Oct. (K-M)
* Horror/Tragedy: Oct. (N-P)
* Mystery: Oct. (Q-S)
* Realistic Fiction: Oct. (T-V)
* Science Fiction: Oct. (W-Z)

***Nonfiction***

* Autobiography: Oct. (A-C)
* Biography: Oct. (A-C)
* Informational/Magazine: Oct. (D-G)

***November***

***Fiction***

* Comics/Graphic Novels: Oct. (D-G)
* Historical Fiction: Oct. (H-J)
* Horror/Tragedy: Oct. (K-M)
* Mystery: Oct. (N-P)
* Realistic Fiction: Oct. (Q-S)
* Science Fiction: Oct. (T-V)

***Nonfiction***

* Autobiography: Oct. (T-V)
* Biography: Oct. (W-Z)
* Informational/Magazine: Oct. (A-C)

***October***

***Fiction***

* Comics/Graphic Novels: Oct. (A-C)
* Historical Fiction: Oct. (D-G)
* Horror/Tragedy: Oct. (H-J)
* Mystery: Oct. (K-M)
* Realistic Fiction: Oct. (N-P)
* Science Fiction: Oct. (Q-S)

***Nonfiction***

* Autobiography: Oct. (T-V)
* Biography: Oct. (T-V)
* Informational/Magazine: Oct. (W-Z)