

**SUMMER READING JOURNAL 2025 - ALL STUDENTS**

**English Department Required Summer Reading Journal Notes**

***\*this form is also available online at*** [***www.popefrancisprep.org***](http://www.popefrancisprep.org) ***under the academics tab***

Complete the following journal template as you read. You may copy/paste this template into a Word document or Google document and type your responses.

Submit a completed Summer Reading Journal for **one book only** from your list. Your teacher will expect that you have read all the books, and he or she will announce additional assessments during the first week of school.

Your teacher will set a deadline for this packet during the first two weeks of school.

***SAVE a digital AND handwritten copy of your Summer Reading Journal(s) for your records. You will be turning in the handwritten copy.***

Student’s Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher’s Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

English Course\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Title of the Book\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Author\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**MARK YOUR GRADE LEVEL THEME & ESSAY TOPIC. This information includes themes and essay topics that will be covered during the year. The essay will be completed in class this coming semester.**

*Keep your topic in mind as you read and record notes and quotes.*

Gr. 9 (Journey & Self-discovery): The theme of the story is the author’s message. It is the main idea of the text which extends beyond the plot and is often a message about life and humankind. How does the main character grow or develop as a result of the story? What challenges must he or she face to complete this journey of self-discovery?

Gr. 10 (Cultural Issues & Values): Analyze how author Jim Ziolkowski demonstrates the Catholic values needed to overcome adversity in his book *Walk in Their Shoes*. Use one or two sample passages you read to exemplify the values he shows and to analyze how they help him in the face of adversity.

Gr. 11 (The American Voice and Social Justice): How does a major character ultimately find the good in the American culture despite the negativity he finds in the troublesome world?

For AP Language & Composition students: Analyze the ways Temple Grandin, author of *Thinking in Pictures,* addresses how Autism Spectrum Disorder informs how she thinks and writes and the strategies she employs that enable her to be successful in her life and writing.

Gr. 12 (Morality Examined & Dissenting Voices): Honors: *In the Time of Butterflies* College Prep: *Born a Crime*--Identify an issue of how morality has been manipulated and examine how a character challenges this abuse and distortion.

For AP Literature and Composition students only: State the theme of the book *Homegoing* and analyze how Yaa Gyasi’s tone and style contribute to the development of this theme and to her critique of the multigenerational effects of slavery.

For every grade level, please complete the following:

**THINK QUESTION & MEMORABLE MOMENTS**

As you read, record 3 questions you have that you cannot answer for yourself and/or those “memorable moments” that you want to discuss in class. These questions should be open-ended, with many possible answers.

**Sample Think Question:** *Why does the act of painting masks on their faces in*

*Lord of the Flies seem to make the boys more violent?*

Question 1:

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Question 2:

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Question 3:

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**RECORD QUOTES TO USE AS EVIDENCE IN YOUR WRITING**

You will need to incorporate quotations from your reading into a short writing piece. Write four (4) quotations from your summer reading book that relate to your theme prompt and that could be used as evidence in a written response to your grade level appropriate question.

**Using Quotes in Your Writing Sample:** The author emphasizes the scope of book burning by comparing the hands of a firefighter to: *“the hands of some amazing conductor playing all the symphonies of blazing and burning to bring down the tatters and charcoal ruins of history”* (Bradbury 3).

**Sample Quotation:** “Gregg needed to realize that just because Mom and Dad had died, it didn’t mean our family had died. Life went on, and he needed to go on, too, with our family” (Smith 242).

Quotation 1:

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“ “(Author’s last name and page number)

How does this quote relate to your theme?

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Quotation 2:

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“ “(Author’s last name and page number)

How does this quote relate to your theme?

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Quotation 3:

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“ “(Author’s last name and page number)

How does this quote relate to your theme?

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Quotation 4:

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“ “(Author’s last name and page number)

How does this quote relate to your theme?

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**CONNECT YOUR READING TO THE THEME (See Page 1 for the themes)**

Write a one-paragraph response (in 5-8 sentences) in which you connect your grade level theme (noted by grade on page 1) to the plot of your selected book. You should have at least 2 of your above quotes. This will be prewriting for the actual summer reading test, in which your teacher will ask you to expand upon this in an essay written in class. Your 4 quotes (from the previous section) can be used at that time.

**\*Include important plot points and include quotes from the previous section to support your answer.**

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**CREATE THE MLA WORKS CITED ENTRY**

Use the following MLA model to document your book in the space below. Choose the one that best coincides with your source.

MLA FORMAT for a BOOK

Author Last name, Author First name. Book Title. Publisher, Date Published.

\*(SAMPLE)\*

*Rottman, Susan. Rough Waters. Puffin Books, 2000.*

MLA FORMAT for a BOOK on KINDLE or other eReader

Author Last name, Author First name. Title of Book. eReader, Publisher, Year of Publication.

\*(SAMPLE)\*

*Rottman, Susan. Rough Waters. Kindle Ed., Puffin Books, 2015.*

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