

## Junior High Required Summer Reading Assessment - 2009

**Directions to students:** Each of the summer reading books have several themes in common. The questions below focus on three of those themes: Survival, Confinement, and Loss. The three questions below can be used for all three books. Read over the questions carefully. Think about the book you read. What ideas come to mind? How might they tie to one of these questions? When you have considered these and any other ideas you might have, choose **ONE** of these questions and begin to develop your response. When school starts, **you will be assessed in your Communication Arts class using the very same question.** The only difference is you'll have to start from scratch developing your answer - no notes - but think of all that prep work you will have done in your head!

**Just think: We're giving you the test questions in advance!** What a great opportunity to prepare!

**One more thing:** If you want to have an idea about how well you're doing, check out the **scoring rubric** for each question. Use it to analyze your work, and come up with ways to strengthen it.

### Assessment Questions

1. **Survival.** Each of these books has main and secondary characters engaged in having to cope with challenges and adapt their choices to their situations in order to survive.

*Choose a character from the book you read. Explain how, in your opinion, this character changed over the course of the story. Use **three examples** from the reading of instances the character you chose was faced with, and how the process of surviving contributed to his/her changes.*

2. **Confinement.** Characters in each of these books experience confinement in both physical and emotional ways.

*Choose an example of a character who experienced physical or emotional confinement. Give your opinion about why the confinement was difficult. Support your opinion with examples from the story.*

3. **Loss.** This is a theme in each of these books.

*Choose an example of loss from the book you read and explain how it changed the characters or events of that story. Compare that with an example of loss from your own life and how the loss changed you.*

Bethel Required Summer Reading Review 2009

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

Check your upcoming Grade:      7 \_\_\_\_\_      8 \_\_\_\_\_      9 \_\_\_\_\_

I verify that my child completed his/her summer reading.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Student Directions:** Answer the questions below. If you need more space, attach another sheet.

1. Identify the book's title, author's name, and number of pages. Underline the title, or italicize all words in the title.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Describe your first impression of one character or event that you find interesting. Give at least three text-based details that generate this impression.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Identify what causes a significant change in one character, and describe the results of that change. This change may be the consequence of a choice, a conflict of some kind that has to be resolved, a display of some outstanding trait like courage, or even the result of an action or event that occurs during the story.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. What type of recommendation would you give this book? Why?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please turn in to your junior high Communication Arts teacher on the first day of class in September 2009.

## Rubric for Required Junior High Summer Reading 2009

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
<b>Question 1: Survival</b>	Character from the book is named.	Character is identified, but details do not demonstrate complete.	Answer conveys a general understanding of a character from the book.	Answer conveys a deep understanding of a character from the book.
	A change in a character is noted.	A change in a character is noted with some idea about how.	Answer contains a basic opinion of how the character changes.	Answer contains a well-developed opinion of how the character changes in order to survive.
	Little if any relevant examples are used to support the opinion.	The answer uses less than 3 examples of survival.	The answer uses 3 examples of survival from the reading than provide some support to the opinion above.	The answer contains 3 text-based examples of survival that provide strong support to the opinion above.

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
<b>Question 2: Confinement</b>	Answer lacks an example of either physical or emotional confinement.	Examples provided are not described as emotional or physical.	Answer includes a general example of physical and emotional confinement from the book.	Answer includes in-depth examples of physical and emotional confinement from the book.
	Little evidence of an opinion can be found in this answer.	It is hard to determine the opinion of why the confinement was difficult for the character.	Answer includes a basic opinion on why the confinement was difficult for the character.	Answer includes a well-developed opinion on why the confinement was difficult for the character.
	Few if any examples from the story are provided.	Examples from the story are included but do not consistently support the opinion above.	Answer includes examples from the story that provide basic support for the opinion above.	Answer includes rich, text-based examples from the story that directly support the opinion above.

## Rubric for Required Junior High Summer Reading 2009

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
<b>Question 3: Loss</b>	An event is included, but not truly a loss.	A loss is mentioned, but not clearly described.	Answer contains a basic example of loss from the book.	Answer contains 1 or more well-described, text-based examples of loss from the book.
	The answer provides little or no connection between the example above and the changed character or event.	The answer provides some connection between the example and the event, but leaves out important information.	Answer contains a basic explanation of how the example changed the character or event.	Answer contains an expanded explanation of how the example changed the character or event.
	The answer lacks either an example of personal loss or connection to the example from the book.	The answer has an inadequately developed example of personal loss, and/or connection to the example from the book.	Answer uses an example of personal loss and draws some connection between it and the example from the book.	Answer uses a relevant example of personal loss drawing clear connections between it and the example from the book.