



Middle School

Joleta Gallozzi, Ph.D., Principal

Dear incoming 8th graders,

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Summer is a wonderful time to read without the pressure of time! It should also be fun and enjoyable. The English Department asks you to fulfill the following requirements for next year.

For your summer reading assignment, we encourage you to take some time and browse the library, various websites, and book stores to find a book that interests you. There are many websites available to browse books, such as www.goodreads.com, www.readbrightly.com, and [100 Best YA Books of All Time](#). *You must choose an age appropriate book and cannot choose a book that you have already read. For example, incoming LA8 students can choose books for grades 8 and above. ESL students may choose books for grades 6-8.*

After reading, you need to complete the following requirements which will be due the first two weeks of September. Your responses for parts 1 and 2 should have a minimum of 400 words and be written on a Google Doc. which will be shared with your LA teacher.

Part 1

Explain why you chose the book you read and what you liked or did not like about it. Provide a thoughtful response within a well-developed paragraph of at least 8-10 sentences.

Part 2 - Choose **one** prompt to respond to from the following:

- a. Select one person 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.
- b. 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 childhood in such a way that shows why he or she is the way he or she is in the novel.
- c. Imagine the protagonist of the story you read is a guest on a talk show/podcast. Think about his or her involvements and experiences in the story, and then create 5 questions that the host would ask the character and provide the thoughtful responses of the character. *See sample questions on the next page.*

ACS Athens Mission Statement:

ACS Athens is a student-centered international school, embracing American educational philosophy, principles and values. Through excellence in teaching and diverse educational experiences, ACS Athens challenges all students to realize their unique potential: academically, intellectually, socially and ethically — to thrive as responsible global citizens.

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(Examples of questions you may include: What would they want the character to talk about? What issues would the character address in the story? How are they getting on with their life after the story? etc.)

d. Create an award for the main character based on his or her actions in the novel. Awards may include “most courageous” for fighting peer pressure, or “wisest” for guidance given to other characters, etc. For the award, write a paragraph (8-10 sentences) that explains why this character deserves this award.

Part 3

In a new notebook write three journal entries (1 paragraph each / 8-10 sentences) on any topic: my summer adventures, personal reflection, a favorite personal story, people, places, ideas, observations, or questions. Be descriptive and add details.

***You will also be using this notebook throughout the year.**

Have a wonderful summer and happy reading!