

NAME:

DATE:



CJMS 8th Grade Summer Reading - Directions



“The average American child spends 78 minutes a week reading, 102 minutes a week on homework and study, and 12 hours a week watching television...If households simply reversed the status quo, reducing kids’ television watching to 78 minutes and boosting their reading to 12 hours, it would do more to improve academic achievement in American than a thousand high-stakes tests and a century of No Child Left Behind measures.”

-Edward Humes

Why do we have summer reading?

Reading is a life-long skill that a person not only needs to succeed as a student and a worker, but it is also an essential skill in civic and personal activities. Perhaps even more importantly, however, reading opens the world to a person through various forms of literature. By reading, individuals have the opportunity to learn about people, times, regions, and ideas that may enhance their knowledge and development. Reading can also bring a lifetime of pleasure and mental acuity.

Research strongly suggests that reading, like most skills, improves with practice and decreases when we don’t engage in it for even a short time. Therefore, consistent with our commitment to prepare all students for success during school and after graduation, we continue in MCPS to expect all students to read during the summer.

Assignment: Over the summer, all eighth grade students are expected to read a novel and complete a *Literary Term Capture Sheet* (attached). The novel should be at least 150 pages in length. A great resource for finding a novel that is compatible with an individual student’s Measures of Academic Progress in Reading (MAP-R) lexile score can be found at www.lexile.com: in addition, the public library, Barnes & Noble, and Borders, among others, offer grade level appropriate suggested reading lists. **Due Date/Deadline:** 2nd day of school (Deadline and Due Date are the same for this assignment.)

The expectation is that ALL components of the literary term capture sheet be detailed and complete. If more space is necessary, a student may continue the capture sheet on another sheet of paper. If a student wishes, he or she may use a word processor to complete the assignment.

Summer Reading Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Work independently and effectively
- Expand their knowledge base of literature
- Achieve a greater exposure to writers, genres, eras, etc...
- Manifest a greater appreciation for reading
- Develop their analytical thinking skills
- Prepare better for their upcoming year in English
- Broaden their overall knowledge, literary appreciation and reading/writing skills

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CJMS 8th Grade Literary Terms - Capture Sheet



Author	
Narrator	
Point of View	
Setting	
Tone	
Exposition	
Inciting Force	
Rising Action	
Crisis	
Climax	
Falling Action	
Resolution/ Denouement	
Conflict	
Theme	
Protagonist	
Antagonist	
Irony	
Symbol(s)	
Foreshadowing	
Characterization	

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CJMS 8th Grade Literary Terms - Resource Page



Author	The person who wrote the story.
Narrator	The narrator is the voice or character who or which tells the story.
Point of View	<p>First Person: The narrator is a character in the story who can reveal only personal thoughts and feelings and what he or she sees and is told by other characters. He can't tell us thoughts of other characters.</p> <p>Third-Person Objective: The narrator is an outsider who can report only what he or she sees and hears. This narrator can tell us what is happening, but he can't tell us the thoughts of the characters.</p> <p>Third-Person Limited: The narrator is an outsider who sees into the mind of one of the characters.</p> <p>Omniscient: The narrator is an all-knowing outsider who can enter the minds of more than one of the characters.</p>
Setting	The time and place in which a story occurs.
Tone	The author's attitude, stated or implied, toward a subject. Some possible attitudes are pessimism, optimism, earnestness, seriousness, bitterness, humorous, and joyful. An author's tone can be revealed through choice of words and details.
Exposition	The introductory material which gives the setting, creates the tone, presents the characters, and presents other facts necessary to understanding the story.
Inciting Force	The character or event that triggers the conflict/rest of the story.
Rising Action	A series of events that builds from the conflict. It begins with the inciting force and ends with the climax.
Crisis	The conflict reaches a turning point. At this point the opposing forces in the story meet and the conflict becomes most intense. The crisis occurs before or at the same time as the climax.
Climax	The climax is the result of the crisis. It is the high point of the story for the reader. Frequently, it is the moment of the highest interest and greatest emotion. The point at which the outcome of the conflict can be predicted.
Falling Action	The events after the climax which close the story.
Resolution/ Denouement	The very end of the story which rounds out and concludes the action.
Conflict	The struggle between two opposing characters, forces, or emotions. Person vs. person, person vs. self, person vs. society, person vs. nature, person vs. fate.
Theme	The main idea or underlying meaning of a literary work. A theme may be stated or implied. Theme differs from the subject or topic of a literary work in that it involves a statement or opinion about the topic. Not every literary work has a theme. Themes may be major or minor. A major theme is an idea the author returns to time and again. It becomes one of the most important ideas in the story. Minor themes are ideas that may appear from time to time.
Protagonist	The main character in a short story; affected deeply by the conflict.

Antagonist	The character or force which opposes or is in conflict with the protagonist.
Irony	<p>Irony is the contrast between what is expected or what appears to be and what actually is.</p> <p>Verbal Irony: The contrast between what is said and what is actually meant.</p> <p>Irony of Situation: This refers to a happening that is the opposite of what is expected or intended.</p> <p>Dramatic Irony: This occurs when the audience or reader knows more than the characters know.</p>
Symbol(s)	A person, place or object which has a meaning in itself but suggests other meanings as well. Things, characters and actions can be symbols.
Foreshadowing	<p>An author's use of hints or clues to suggest events that will occur later in the story. Not all foreshadowing is obvious. Frequently, future events are merely hinted at through dialogue, description, or the attitudes and reactions of the characters.</p> <p>Foreshadowing frequently serves two purposes. It builds suspense by raising questions that encourage the reader to go on and find out more about the event that is being foreshadowed. Foreshadowing is also a means of making a narrative more believable by partially preparing the reader for events which are to follow.</p>
Characterization	<p>Dynamic: A character who grows or changes throughout the course of a story. Static: A character who does not grow or change throughout a story.</p> <p>Round: A character complex in temperament and motivation; drawn with subtlety; capable of growth and change during the course of the narrative Flat: built around a single idea or quality and unchanging over the course of the narrative</p> <p>Direct Characterization: There is no need for the reader to draw any conclusions about the character. A character is portrayed by direct description of his outward appearance and by directly naming his human and mental qualities or abilities. Indirect Characterization: Here inference MUST be used. A character is portrayed by what he does, says, how others react to him, or by describing his environment. From what he does, says, how others react to him, or from his surroundings one draws conclusions as to what kind of character it is.</p>

