

BRIGHTER HORIZONS ACADEMY
COLLEGE PREPARATORY

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"Where Knowledge, Faith, Arts and Character Meet."



Dear BHA Families,

Assalamulaikum and Ramadan Mubarak! We pray that your Ramadan will be bountiful in worship and blessings.

Summer is a time of rest and relaxation, but if used wisely, it can also be a time when your child is able to jump ahead with their skills and increase their reading levels. If your minds are not kept active, summer regression of skills may occur. To help maintain your reading level and develop a life-long love of reading, we encourage you to read as many self-selected books as you can over the summer!

To keep your skills sharp, we are recommending that you read the following books to help you prepare for the units/themes of the upcoming school year. There is one required summer novel for each grade level.

Required Readings for each grade:

6th: *Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli (6th grade will receive a separate summer work packet)

7th: *Holes* by Louis Sachar

8th: *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck

9th: *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

10th: *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho

- ✓ 7th-10th graders are expected to annotate the book as they read. Annotations include highlighting significant quotes/passages, identifying and defining unknown vocabulary, writing questions, thoughts, and personal connections in the margin, and summarizing chapters. The annotation rubric is attached.
- ✓ The novel should be completed by the first day of school (August 14th). All grades will have an in-class performance task based on the reading within the first week of school, so be prepared!
- ✓ In addition, you will be completing a dialectical journal assignment for your book. While reading the book, you will select 5 quotes that stand out to you from throughout the book. Analyze the significance of these quotes, its relation to the book as a whole, and what it reveals about the characters.
- ✓ For 7th-10th grade: As you read, keep a dialectical journal for each book. You should write these journals in one notebook. **DO NOT TYPE YOUR JOURNALS!** These journals will consist of quotations to which you respond critically for each work. Journals are due Friday, August 17th. Please label and date journals appropriately. Select one quotation or passage for approximately every one-two chapters. Respond to the quotations, focus on the ways in which the author uses

language to create an effect. What is it about the language that stands out and makes the passage distinctive? How does the passage reflect the author’s style and reveal larger themes of the work? Responses should be developed thoughtfully. Responses should be approximately 50 words in length.

- ✓ The dialectical journals should be constructed in the following manner:

Quote	Response
<p>“Write the quote from the book” (include author’s last name, page number and quotation marks)</p> <p>Example: “In my younger and more vulnerable years my father gave me some advice I’ve been turning over in my mind ever since.” (Fitzgerald 3).</p>	<p>Response and analysis of the quote cited on the left</p> <p>For the RESPONSE column, you have several ways to respond to a text and you only need to use one way.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Raise questions about the beliefs and values implied in the text · Give your personal reactions to the passage · Discuss the words, ideas, or actions of the author or a character · Tell what it reminds you of from your own experiences · Write about what it makes you think or feel · Argue with or speak to the character or author side of the page.

The following are recommended readings to help you maintain or even increase your reading skill level. These are just suggestions based on the themes and novels for the school year, but you can read what sparks your interest!



Recommended Lists by grade level:

6th:

- *Elijah of Buxton* by Christopher Paul Curtis
- *The Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E.L. Konigsburg
- *Shiloh* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
- *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor
- *My Brother Sam is Dead* by James Lincoln Collier, Christopher Collier
- *Ella Enchanted* by Gail Carson Levine
- *Charlie & The Chocolate Factory; Boy* by Roald Dahl

7th:

- *I Am Malala: The Story of the Girl Who Stood Up for Education and was Shot by the Taliban* by Malala Yousafzai with Christina Lamb
- *The Chronicles of Narnia* by C. S. Lewis
- *The Cat of Bubastes* by G.A.Henry

8th:

- *The Book Thief* by Marcus Zusak
- *Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse
- *Kids with Courage: True Stories about Young People Making a Difference* by Barbara A. Lewis
- *The Hunger Games* Series by Suzanne Collins

9th:

- *The Maze Runner* series by James Dashner
- *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
- *Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd
- *The Hunger Games* Series by Suzanne Collins

10th:

- *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel
- *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens* by Sean Covey
- *Things Fall Apart* By Chinua Achebe
- *Tuesdays with Morrie: An Old Man, A Young Man, and Life's Greatest Lesson* by Mitch Albom

Enjoy your summer reading, insha Allah!

Jazakum Allahu Khairun,

BHA English Department

Dialectical Journal Rubric

Scoring Components	
Name and Dates for each journal entry	_____/10
Five quotes/passages to support the main argument (5 points each)	_____/30
Full, original, thoughtful, response per quote (one paragraph, about 6-8 sentences, per quote) approx. 8 pts each	_____/50
Correct format and cited quote; hand-written	_____/10
Total	_____/10 0

Notes: _____

Grade: _____

Novel Annotation Rubric

	100-90	80-89	79-70	60 or below
Vocabulary	At least 15 vocab words are highlighted and defined in the text	Between 10-15 vocab words are highlighted and defined in the text	Between 1-10 vocab words are highlighted and defined in the text	There are no vocab words highlighted or there are no defined words in the text
Literary Terms	Literary elements are identified and highlighted in a different color and includes a comment to identify what it is	Some literary elements are identified and highlighted in a different color with comments	Literary elements are not identified or highlighted in a different color and/or comments are missing	Literary elements are not highlighted
Significant quotes and phrases	Significant quotes and phrases that are key components of the novel are highlighted and includes a short comment	Significant quotes and phrases are highlighted but do not include short comments	Some significant quotes and phrases are highlighted but not many	There are no significant quotes or phrases highlighted
Marginal comments	Text has been thoroughly annotated with questions, comments, and reflections. The text is saturated with marks and marginal comments or sticky notes. Connections are made to other parts of the book and comments display depth that goes beyond the surface level of the text	Text is somewhat annotated with questions, comments, and reflections. The text has some marks and marginal comments or sticky notes. Some connections are made to other parts of the book and comments display somewhat of depth beyond the surface level of the text	Text annotation is missing questions, comments, or reflections. The text has minimal marginal comments or sticky notes. Minimal connections are made to other parts of the book. Comments do not display much depth beyond the surface level of the text	Text is not annotated with any questions, comments, and reflections. The text has no marginal comments or sticky notes. Connections are not made to other parts of the book. Comments, if made, are basic and literal
Character List & Literary Terms List	Front cover lists a description of all the characters & names	Front cover lists most of the characters; some literary terms are listed	Front cover and/or back pages are missing at least half the content	Either the front cover or the back pages are missing content
Consistency	Consistent markings appear throughout the text (not bunched).	Markings appear consistently throughout but some chapters may be missing	Markings only appear in some chapters while others are completely blank	Little to no effort put into maintaining consistent markings

Total: 100 possible points

