

Dear Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Students,

This summer, you will have two required books to read (one fiction and one non-fiction) and an *OPTIONAL PROJECT* that will pertain to a list of selected books. These texts have been selected to help maintain the focus of the past year's curriculum and will help prepare you for the kind of literature you will encounter this coming school year.

The following texts will be required reading over the summer:

Chasing Lincoln's Killer by James L. Swanson

Stealing Home: The Story of Jackie Robinson by Barry Denenberg

As you read, you may use any or all of the graphic organizers provided to help you keep track of the plot, important literary elements and new vocabulary. During the first full week of school, there will be a multiple choice exam on these two texts, so please read carefully!

### Summer Reading Test Outline

1. Texts:

- Make sure that you have read and studied *both* summer reading texts closely. They will be equally represented on the exam.

2. Factual Knowledge of the Texts:

- Part of the exam will test whether or not you have read the books.
- Be prepared to answer factual questions about what does and does not happen in the texts of both summer reading books.
- Review important plot events, important character details, important settings, and important pieces of information.

3. Reading Comprehension:

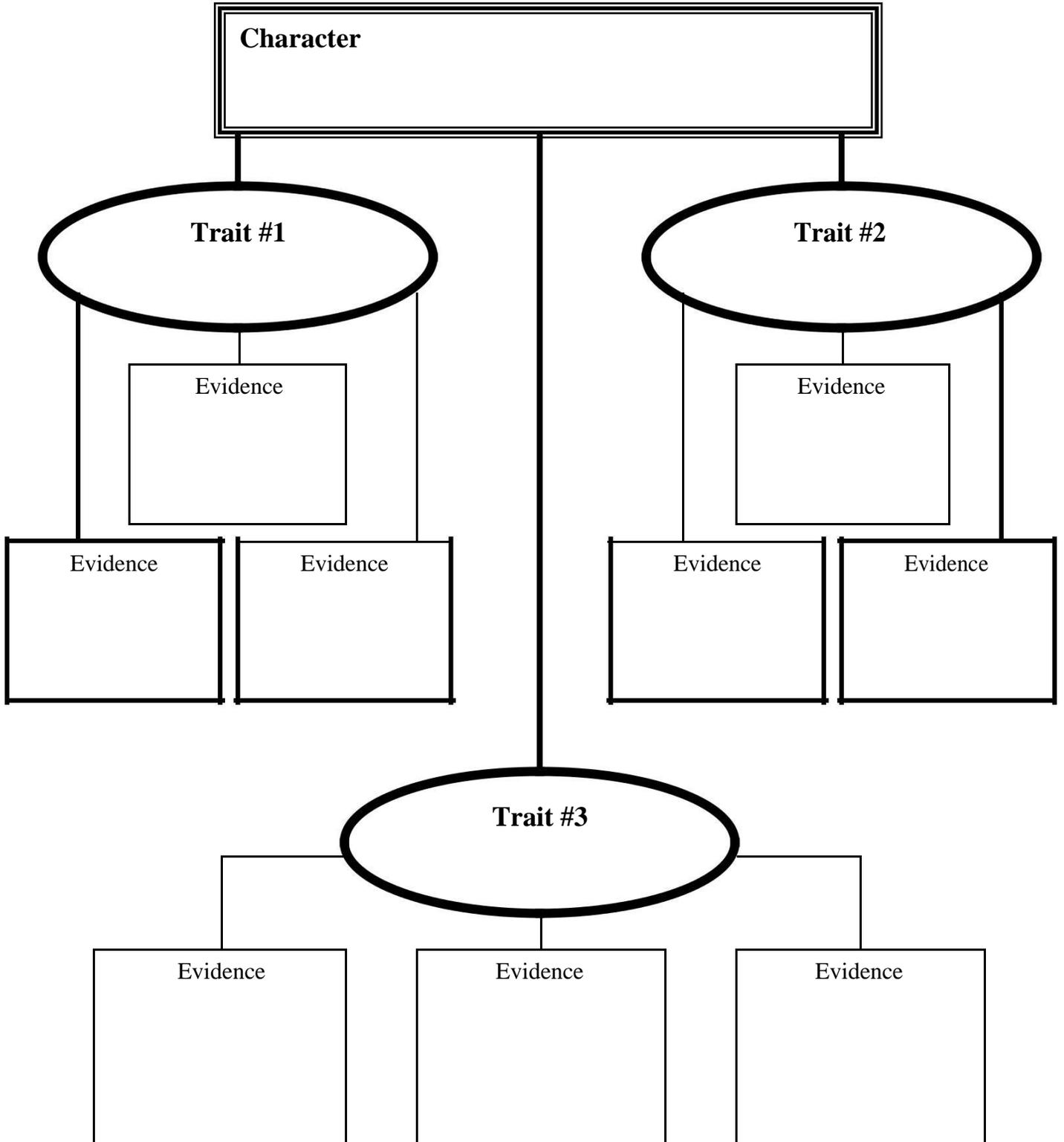
- Part of the exam will test your ability to read closely and carefully. You will be asked to explain the meaning of specific excerpts from the texts.
- Re-read key scenes in the summer reading texts closely in order to practice for the reading and responding you will be asked to do on the test.

*\*This test will count as 100 points towards the first trimester report card grade*

There will also be an in-class essay. This essay will be an argumentative essay and students will be allowed to use any of the graphic organizers they may have used during the summer, however, they will not be allowed to use the books. These graphic organizers will not be collected, but will help students with important details on their essay.

# CHARACTER MAP

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**BOOK** \_\_\_\_\_

**CHARACTER TRAITS AND TEXTUAL EVIDENCE**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Character Trait:**

**Quote (pg. \_\_\_ ) :**

**Explanation:**

## Conflict Dissection

<b>Character, Setting, Problem, Solution</b>	
<b>Characters (who?)</b>	<b>Setting (Time, Place, Where)</b>
<b>Problem/Conflict</b>	<b>Solution/Resolution</b>

## Plot Summary

<b>Characters (Who?)</b>	<b>Setting (Where?)</b>
<b>First</b>	
<b>Problem</b>	
<b>Solution</b>	
<b>Summary</b>	

## LITERARY ELEMENTS GRAPHIC ORGANIZER

<b>ABOUT YOUR BOOK (BE DETAILED AND SPECIFIC)</b>	
<b>TITLE</b>	
<b>AUTHOR</b>	
<b># OF PAGES</b>	
<b>TYPE OF STORY "Genre"</b>	
<b>SETTING</b> When and where the story takes place.	
<b>CHARACTERS</b> The people in the story.	
<b>PLOT</b> The main events in the story.	
<b>CLIMAX</b> Turning Point. Point where the outcome is clear.	
<b>CONFLICT</b> The problem.	
<b>RESOLUTION</b> The solution.	
<b>THEME</b> The underlying message.	

## Four-Square Graphic Organizer

First supporting detail:	Second supporting detail:
Third supporting detail:	Inference:

Main Idea:

## KWL Chart

What do you <b>know</b> ?	What do you <b>want</b> to know?	What did you <b>Learn</b> ?

## Word Study

**Word and Definition:**

<b>Synonyms:</b>	<b>Antonyms:</b>
<b>Examples:</b>	<b>Non-Examples:</b>
<b>Other Members of Word Family:</b>	<b>Related Words:</b>

**Sentence:**

**Illustration:**

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# Vocabulary

My Definition:

Part of Speech:

Synonyms:

Antonyms:

Word:

My Sentence:

A Picture to remind me of this word:

In addition to reading the two texts in preparation for an in class multiple choice test and an in-class essay, you will choose *ONE* project to complete based on what you have learned from Chasing Lincoln's Killer.

Please choose from the following tasks:

1. Write 5 journal entries from the point of view of one character. Choose the 5 most significant events from the text and write these entries as though you are the character. Each entry must be at least one full paragraph. You must use at least one quote per journal entry.
2. Find 3 poems or songs that deal with similar topics as Chasing Lincoln's Killer. For each poem/song, write a one paragraph response that explains the topic the texts share, what literary elements each text uses to develop the topic and which text was more successful and why. You must quote at least twice from the book!
3. Create a crossword puzzle for twenty important terms from the text. Your puzzle must be complete with clues that are challenging and require thought! You may choose from important characters, the setting, conflicts, any other important literary elements and/or new vocabulary.
4. Illustrate the five most important scenes from the book. Be as creative as you can be and really make the scene come to life! You must also attach a caption to the illustration that explains that scene and why it is so important to the book. Your caption must include one quote per caption.
5. Create a collage that illustrates the theme of the book you read. Use as many images/words as you can and avoid empty spaces! Your collage may not be smaller than 8.5x11 and should show planning. You must also attach a description of your collage and explain the theme it shows and how the book demonstrates the same theme and include 2 quotes from the text that help demonstrate the theme.

#### Optional Literature Assignment:

This project will be based on a fiction text of your choosing. You will pick *ONE* text and pick *ONE* assignment. This project will be collected during the first full week of school and will count as a project grade for the first trimester.

Remember to choose the text you are most interested in! This will help you connect the text and enjoy the project much more!

This project will be based on a fiction text of your choosing. You will pick *ONE* text and pick *ONE* assignment. This project will be collected during the first full week of school and will count as a project grade for the first trimester.

Remember to choose the text you are most interested in! This will help you connect the text and enjoy the project much more!

The Egypt Game - Zilpha Keatley Snyder

Flowers for Algernon - Daniel Keyes

I am Malala - Christina Lamb and Malala Yousafzai

Tuck Everlasting - Natalie Babbitt

The Call of the Wild – Jack London

The Hunger Games – Suzanne Collins

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer – Mark Twain

Animal Farm – George Orwell

The Cay – Theodore Taylor

Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland – Lewis Carroll

A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court – Mark Twain

Using what you have learned from *ONE BOOK* please choose a *ONE* literature Activity Task.

1. Write 5 journal entries from the point of view of one character. Choose the 5 most significant events from the text and write these entries as though you are the character. Each entry must be at least one full paragraph. You must use at least one quote per journal entry.
2. Find 3 poems or songs that deal with similar topics as the book you have read. For each poem/song, write a one paragraph response that explains the topic the texts share, what literary elements each text uses to develop the topic and which text was more successful and why. You must quote at least twice from the book!
3. Create a crossword puzzle for twenty important terms from the text. Your puzzle must be complete with clues that are challenging and require thought! You may choose from important characters, the setting, conflicts, any other important literary elements and/or new vocabulary.

4. Illustrate the five most important scenes from the book. Be as creative as you can be and really make the scene come to life! You must also attach a caption to the illustration that explains that scene and why it is so important to the book. Your caption must include one quote per caption.
  
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