

INCOMING 8TH GRADE SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

All work will be turned in by Friday **Sep 5, 2025**. Anything completed digitally should be turned into the Google classroom once they get their chromebooks. Printed work can be turned in anytime on or before the due date. *Note there are many excellent books to choose from; so if you want to read more than one, please do so!

Attached in this packet:

1. This information sheet (step by step!) + book list
2. Character Consideration sheet - body outline; Character Consideration sheet - feelings/thought/speech bubbles ... **you will choose one worksheet to complete.**
3. Sketch notes - DIRECTIONS sheet - this is full of helpful information and general guidelines for taking notes while reading and ideas for what to include in the One Pager Project
4. Fiction Directions for One Pager (use if you read a fiction book)
5. Non-fiction Directions for One Pager (use if you read a non-fiction book)
6. Rubric - **please read the rubric and the checklist on the last page of the packet**

Step #1: Read **one** of the book options listed below.

Step #2: On **lined** paper or a Google Slide/Doc - write a summary of the book

- **SUMMARY-**
 - Write sentences explaining the setting (time and place) and the key events that took place in the story. Use details from the story in your summary and include what you think the theme is (main message) and why it's the theme.

Step #3: use **one** of the provided character consideration sheets to complete a character sketch for the main character (or one of the main characters)

- **CHARACTERIZATION-** fill out the graphic organizer for one character from the book you chose

Step #4: One pager

- **ONE PAGER-**
 - Complete it digitally or on **white paper**. This is meant to be a creative project. Follow the directions but **think outside the box!** I've included an overall directions sheet and a specific directions sheet for both fiction and nonfiction.
 - **THE ENTIRE PIECE OF CONSTRUCTION PAPER SIZE PAPER SHOULD BE FILLED.**
 - *I will post an example of a one pager on my school website before the end of June - please check if you need guidance!*

Incoming 8th Grader Summer Reading Book Options:

1. Amaria and the Night Brothers by B. B. Alston

“Quinton Peters was the golden boy of the Rosewood low-income housing projects, receiving full scholarship offers to two different Ivy League schools. When he mysteriously goes missing, his little sister, 13-year-old Amari Peters, can’t understand why it’s not a bigger deal. Why isn’t his story all over the news? And why do the police automatically assume he was into something illegal?”

2. You Can Fly: The Tuskegee Airmen by Carole Brown Weatherford

“I WANT YOU! says the poster of Uncle Sam.

But if you’re a young black man in 1940, he doesn’t want you in the cockpit of a war plane. Yet you are determined not to let that stop your dream of flying.”

3. Projekt 1065 by Alan Gratz

“A historical fiction novel set during World War II, following Michael O’Shaunessey, a young Irish spy in Nazi Germany. Michael infiltrates the Hitler Youth, using his photographic memory to steal blueprints for a secret Nazi jet plane, Projekt 1065, and help downed Allied airmen.”

4. Ali Cross by James Patterson

“Ali Cross has always looked up to his father, former detective and FBI agent Alex Cross. While solving some of the nation’s most challenging crimes, his father always kept his head and did the right thing. Can Ali have the same strength and resolve?”

5. The Boys Who Challenged Hitler by Phillip Hoose

“The Boys Who Challenged Hitler: Knud Pedersen and the Churchill Club is the remarkable true story of a small group of courageous Danish teens whose acts of sabotage against the German military inspired their country to rise up against the Nazi occupation.”

6. Remember Us by Jacqueline Woodson

“A young girl named Sage who grapples with the changing world around her, particularly the devastating fires burning down her Bushwick neighborhood in the 1970s.”

7. Before the Ever After by Jacqueline Woodson

“For as long as ZJ can remember, his dad has been everyone’s hero. As a charming, talented pro football star, he’s as beloved to the neighborhood kids he plays with as he is to his millions of adoring sports fans. But lately life at ZJ’s house is anything but charming. His dad is having trouble remembering things and seems to be angry all the time.”

Summer Reading for 8th Grade 2025

8. Full Cicada Moon by Marilyn Hilton

“It's 1969, and the Apollo 11 mission is getting ready to go to the moon. But for half-black, half-Japanese Mimi, moving to a predominantly white Vermont town is enough to make her feel alien.”

9. Absolutely Truly by Heather Vogel Frederick -

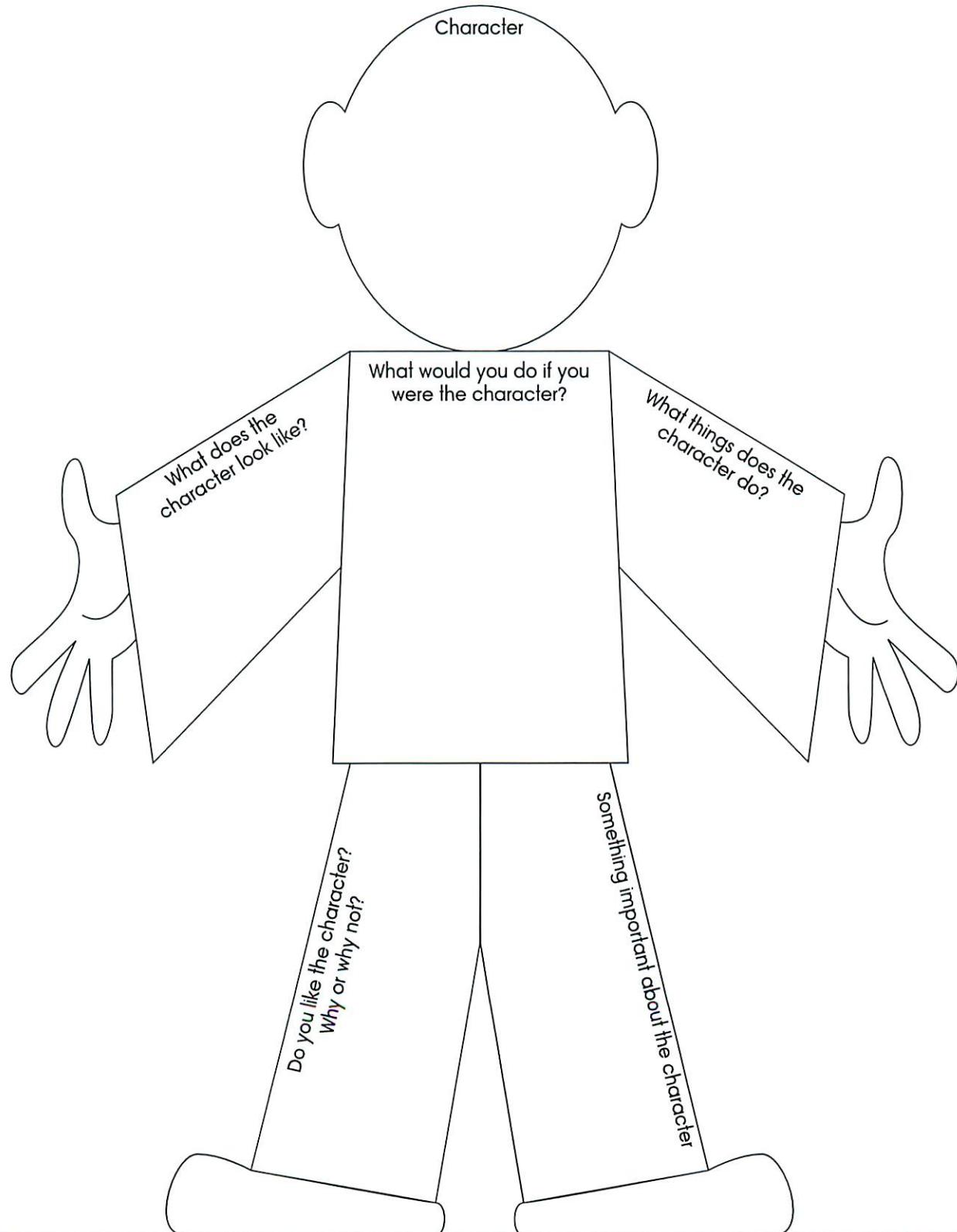
“Truly Lovejoy is accustomed to change. Her father's military career means they move often. But the kind of change that comes when her father loses an arm in Afghanistan and decides to move the family to middle-of-nowhere Pumpkin Falls to take over the family bookstore is a little more than Truly can handle.”

Name _____

Character Consideration

C.001.SS3

Title: _____ Author: _____



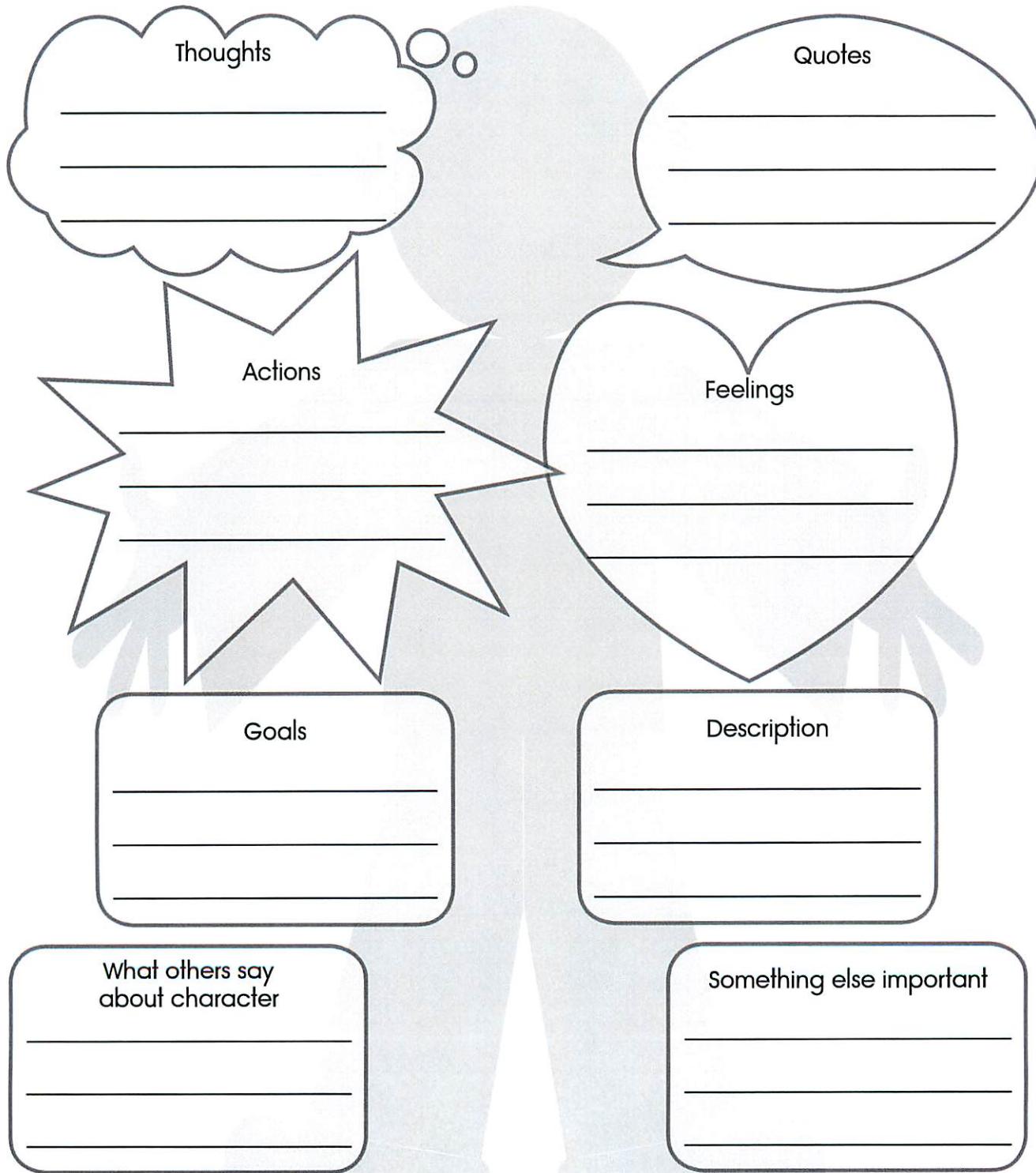
Name _____

Character Consideration

C.001.SSI

Title: _____ Author: _____

Character: _____

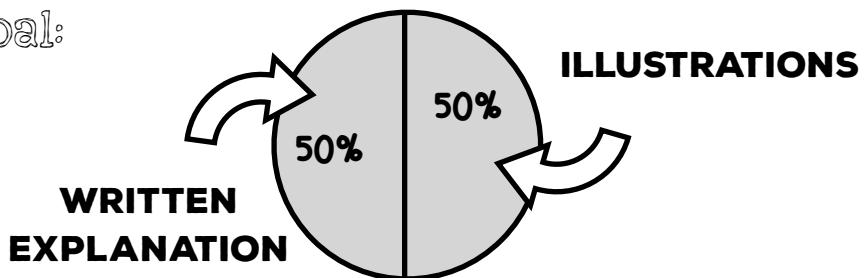


Sketch Notes

DIRECTIONS

Directions: Take notes during the reading and/or lecture. Sketch and doodle to help explain the concepts covered. Include thorough notes as well.

Your Goal:



1. BE COMPLETE.
2. BE THOROUGH.
3. ADD IMAGES.
4. MAKE CONNECTIONS.
5. BE READY TO SHARE.
6. FLOW CHARTS ARE COOL.
7. DIAGRAMS ARE AWESOME.
8. PICTURES ARE WARMLY WELCOME.
9. USE THE HANDOUT GIVEN LOGICALLY.
10. BE AWARE OF WHAT SPACE YOU HAVE TO CAPTURE THE CONCEPTS GIVEN.
11. INCLUDE A TITLE, YOUR NAME AND THE TOPIC.
12. DID YOU CAPTURE ALL MAJOR POINTS?
13. INCLUDE QUESTIONS YOU HAVE TOO.

Rubric:

Attention to Detail: / /

Depth: / /

Artistry: / /

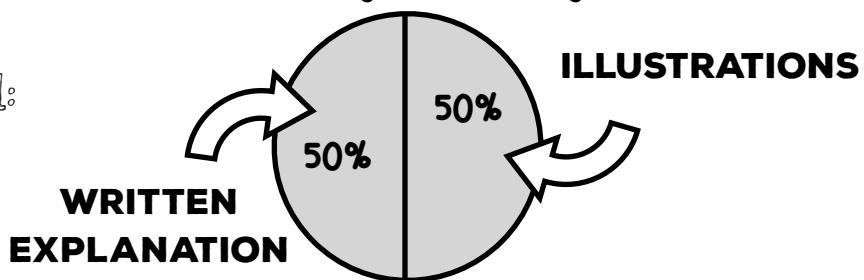
TOTAL: / /

SKETCH NOTES
Include detailed notes and relevant sketches to help you understand the concepts.

Fiction **DIRECTIONS** *for One Pagers*

Directions: Choose a minimum of 5-6 elements from the list below to add to your one pager notes. Then, mark which ones you have included in the box next to the element. Complete each element in writing and with images.

Your Goal:



Rubric:

Attention to Detail: / /

Depth: / /

Artistry: / /

TOTAL: / /

ONE PAGER

Shows your
understanding of
the topic with
pictures and in
writing.

- THEME(S)**
- QUOTES**
- SETTING**
- CHARACTER'S DECISIONS**
- CHANGES IN CHARACTERS**
- TONE**
- MAIN EVENTS**
- CHARACTER TRAITS**
- CLIMAX**
- IMAGERY**
- NARRATOR**

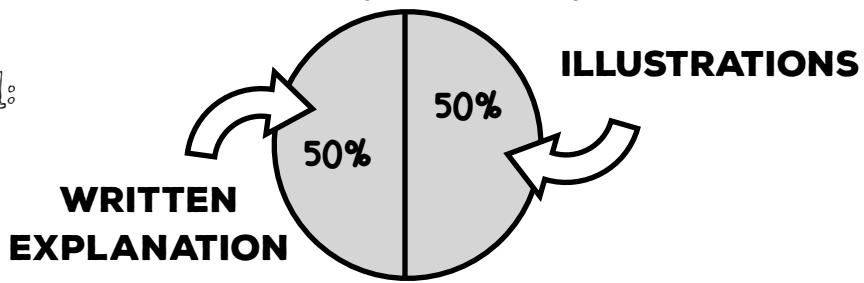
Non-Fiction

DIRECTIONS

for One Pagers

Directions: Choose a minimum of 5-6 elements from the list below to add to your one pager notes. Then, mark which ones you have included in the box next to the element. Complete each element in writing and with images.

Your Goal:



Rubric:

Attention to Detail: / /

Depth: / /

Artistry: / /

TOTAL: / /

- MAIN POINTS**
- STATISTICS/DATA/DATES**
- LOCATION**
- AUTHOR BIO**
- SUB-POINTS**
- FLOW CHARTS/OUTLINES**
- SEQUENCE OF EVENTS**
- PEOPLE INVOLVED**
- QUESTIONS YOU HAVE**
- ADDITIONAL RESEARCH NEEDED**
- RATE THE PIECE AND EXPLAIN**

ONE PAGER
Shows your
understanding of
the topic with
pictures and in
writing.

Middle School Summer Reading Rubric

Name: _____

Number: _____

Book Title: _____

Homeroom: _____

Total /20 Grade:

Notes:

Quality	4	3	2	1
Attention to Detail/Effort	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Student effort is evident in the final product - All required elements are completed with detail 	One element is missing/incomplete	More than one element is missing/incomplete	Project is incomplete/shows no evidence of grade level effort
Artistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project is neat, creative and the page is full 	Project is mostly neat	Project is messy/paper is incomplete.	Project does not meet the requirement for imagery
Depth of Understanding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Student shows a depth of understanding of the novel - Elements included are completed thoughtfully and with intention 	Student shows a good understanding	Student shows a partial understanding	Student does not demonstrate understanding of the material
Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Book summary is neat, thorough and easy to understand 	Summary is neat, but may be missing a few details	Summary is messy and/or missing several details	Summary is missing and/or entirely incomplete
Characterization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Characterization sheet is completed thoughtfully and thoroughly 	Characterization may be partially incomplete and/or missing a few details.	Characterization may be partially incomplete and/or missing many details.	Characterization is incomplete.

Do you have everything?

Check list:

- One page project (with all directions followed)
- One paragraph summary of your book (typed or handwritten)
- One characterization sheet (there are two - choose which one works best for you)

If completing a summary digitally, students can turn them in through google classroom once they have their chromebooks. All one-pagers should be done by hand.