

Rising Seventh Grade Summer Language Arts Assignment 2010

This summer, you are encouraged to read as much as possible, but you are required to read **two books**. One of the required books is *Behind Rebel Lines* by Seymour Reit. The book is set during the Civil War time period and connects with American History. Throughout the year, connections will be made with literature we read and American History. The second book is **one that you choose and is appropriate to your reading level**.

Reading not only takes you on adventures, but also determines your success in learning. Studies document that the more you read, the more successful you are in school. Please try to be an active reader this summer, by picking up newspapers, magazines or books whenever you have the chance. The variety of writers and genres you read will add strategies to your writers' craft toolbox. **You need to maintain a log of texts read over the summer months**. Fill out the log sheet that you were given and additional log sheets will be available on the seventh grade website.

You will record your thinking as you read your **two books**. It is important you keep track of your ideas (thinking) at the beginning, middle and end of the book. For the book, *Behind Rebel Lines* focus on **what you think Emma, the main character, learns by the end of the book**. Take specific notes **either using sticky notes (post-it notes), or writing a double entry journal**. Don't forget to include chapter titles/numbers and page numbers from the book. During the first week of school, you will be using your notes for a class writing assignment, and you will need to have access to the text *Behind Rebel Lines* for a literature study during the first nine weeks.

For the **second book** mark at least **three** different writer's craft. Take specific notes **either using sticky notes (post-it notes), or writing a double entry journal**. You will be able to use your notes for a class assignment on Writer's Craft.

What is due the first day of school?

- **Log Sheet** completely filled out and signed
- **Sticky notes OR a double-entry journal completed on *Behind Rebel Lines***
 - **Focus your thinking about the main character Emma**
 - **Copy of *Behind Rebel Lines* to use for class assignments**
- **Sticky notes OR a double-entry journal completed on independent reading book**
 - **Focus your thinking on the Writer's Craft**
- If you complete a double-entry journal, use the format given:
 - Specific lines from the beginning, middle and end of text
 - Shared thinking (thought provoking responses) and did not give plot summary
- If you complete sticky notes, label the notes clearly with chapter titles/numbers and page numbers. Make sure you have thought provoking responses.

What is a double-entry journal?

A double-entry journal shares **your thinking** about a text and directly states the lines from the text to show your evidence (support) for your ideas. Do not give a plot summary of the text.

Steps for writing a double-entry journal:

1. Title your paper with the proper heading
Name
Date Title of Book (underlined) and Author
2. Divide your paper in half lengthwise, "like a hot-dog bun."
3. In the left-hand column, copy sentences or words directly from the text. Include the page(s) of the text so I know what you are referencing.
4. In the right-hand column, write down your thinking about the text you wrote on the left-hand side. Use the strategies we learned this year: making connections, visualizing, author's purpose, looking closely at word choice and writer's style of writing.
5. Make sure to include thinking from the beginning, middle and end of the text.

Lines from Text with page numbers	Thinking
Direct quote from text and page number	I think _____ will ... I thought that ... I think _____ means ... This reminds me of _____ because ... I visualize _____ because ... Stay away from summary or retelling of the plot

Enjoy the summer and go on a journey through the pages of a book. Don't forget to discuss what you read with family members and friends. I look forward to seeing you in August.

Mrs. Spies

**Rising Seventh Grade
Reading and Writing Summer Assignment Log Sheet 2010**

I, _____, read the following books listed below

Student's Name (clearly printed)

as part of my summer reading assignment. I recorded my thinking for the two books. My thinking for *Behind Rebel Lines* and one independent reading book is on sticky notes clearly labeled, or a completed double entry journal. If I completed a double entry journal, I used the format given. I understand that I will have class assignments to complete where I will use my notes and the text *Behind Rebel Lines*.

Student's signature

Title of Book	Author	Genre	Date completed

My child has read the books listed above including the book titled *Behind Rebel Lines*. I reviewed his/her **notes, or double entry journal for *Behind Rebel Lines* and one independent reading book.**

Parent/Guardian Signature