

# ENGLISH 1- Independent Reading Project

The Independent Reading Project is a chance for you to truly ENJOY your reading. Explore honestly and thoroughly, keep on top of due dates and you are guaranteed to do well on this project. You will have to complete **all** of the individual parts of the project in order to get **maximum credit**. Here in the order you will turn them in are those parts:

1. **Book Proposal:** In a one (1) page typed statement, tell me what book you are reading, the author of your book and why you are interested in this book/subject. Also what you will do differently to ensure successfully completing the project. You will be provided with a sample book proposal to use as a model. This proposal is NOT a legal contract; you can change your mind about your book. I just need to know ASAP that you have changed your book and remember FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED!
  - a. The choice of the book is up to the student, but it should be a book that is on or above grade level, **at least 150 pages and has not been read before (in school or out of school – I know what texts are part of the middle school & high school curriculum).**

**This component is worth 20% of the total project grade and is due \_\_\_\_\_**

## 2. Reading Questions:

- a. Also, you need to complete **5 total reading questions**. Reading questions **MUST** be typed and in MLA format! EACH reading question should be **AT LEAST 250 words**.

**Combined, these components of your project are worth 80% of your total grade and due \_\_\_\_\_**

## BIG WARNINGS....

- **First come, first served! Students will NOT be allowed to read the same book or the same author!**
- Computer and/or printer issues are *not* my problem. Plan ahead. Do not come to me to ask if you can go print out a paper. Papers are due at the beginning of the period. If you are concerned about your home computer/printer, finish early so you have a few days to problem-solve.
- The grading rubric *must* be attached to your vocabulary list/ reading questions. **No rubric, no grade.** I do NOT make extra copies.
- Papers are due on the due date regardless of an absence. **Absolutely NO late papers will be accepted under any condition.** If you are ill, find someone reliable to deliver the paper to the school and have it stamped with the date and time in the main office. **If your parents excuse you from school due to illness, a DOCTOR'S NOTE on that date will be required before the project will be considered.**
- NOT reading is not an option. NOT writing you own paper is not an option. Plagiarism is considered using someone else's words or ideas, whether directly or indirectly, without giving the individual credit through proper citation. Plagiarism on any part of this paper (no matter how big or small) will result in 0/100 points (which would likely contribute to an F in the course) and a school referral. I do not take this lightly and neither should you. DO YOUR OWN WORK!
- **THIS CAN SOMETIMES MAKE OR BREAK YOUR FINAL CLASS GRADE!!!! TOTAL POINTS= 100 points!!!**

# Reading Questions

For your independent reading assignment, you need to complete reading questions.

What you NEED:

1. **5—total reading questions**
2. Reading Questions **MUST** be typed!
3. EACH reading question should be **AT LEAST 250 words**.
4. Number them!
5. Separate reading questions entries. This is **not** a cohesive essay!  
(Skipping a space while typing is sufficient.)

**Reading Questions:** Select **5 to answer**. Be sure to address the entire question to ensure full credit.

1. How has the main character changed from the beginning of the story to the end of the story?
2. What are some internal and external conflicts that the main character is experiencing throughout the plot? Provide **2 examples** for internal conflicts and **2 examples** for external conflicts.
3. What is a theme in the story? Name the theme and discuss at least **2 examples** of this theme in the novel.
4. What is an event that took place in the novel that you can relate to? Write about how it relates to your life.
5. Write about a time when the novel foreshadowed a coming event. How did it foreshadow that event? Were you surprised when the event happened?
6. Write about a symbol in the novel. Name the symbol and talk about **at least 2 examples (DIRECT CITATIONS)** of how the symbol is used in the novel.
7. Do you like the ending of the novel? Why or why not? Be specific as to why you like it or not!
8. Compare two characters. Describe the similarities and differences.
9. Find **2 examples (DIRECT CITATIONS)** of imagery in your novel. Write about how they are imagery and be sure to include the quotes as well as to why you believe the author decided to use imagery in the novel.
10. What is the book saying about people or the world? Refer to specific situations, characters, or other literary elements in the book to support your answer. In addition to supporting details, include a quote from at least one passage in the book that reflects the theme you have identified.

## IRP- READING QUESTIONS RUBRIC

	<b>EXCELLENT, ABOVE STANDARD (16)</b>	<b>SATISFACTORY, ADEQUATE (12)</b>	<b>WEAK, NEEDS IMPROVEMENTS (8)</b>
<b>Response to the Topic</b>	Addresses the topic clearly and responds effectively to all aspects of the task.	Addresses the topic but may neglect some aspects of the task	Indicates confusion about the topic or neglects important aspects of the task.
<b>Understanding and use of the assigned reading</b>	Demonstrates a deep understanding of the assigned reading in developing a response that exhibits understanding.	Demonstrates a generally accurate understanding of the assigned reading in developing a sensible response.	Demonstrates very poor understanding of the main points of the assigned reading, does not use the reading appropriately in developing a response, or may not use the reading at all.
<b>Quality and clarity of thought</b>	Explores the issues thoughtfully and in depth.	May treat the topic simplistically or repetitively.	Lacks focus and coherence, and often fails to communicate its ideas
<b>Organization, development and support</b>	Is coherently organized and developed, with ideas supported by fitting reasons and well-chosen examples.	Is adequately organized and developed, generally supporting ideas with reasons and examples.	Has very weak organization and development, providing simplistic generalizations without support.
<b>Grammar, usage, and mechanics</b>	Is generally free from errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics.	May have some errors, but generally demonstrates control of grammar, usage, and mechanics.	Is marked by numerous errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics that frequently interfere with meaning.

NOTES:

**PROJECT PROPOSAL= \_\_\_\_\_/20**

**READING QUESTIONS= \_\_\_\_\_/80**

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**TOTAL PROJECT GRADE= \_\_\_\_\_/100**