

## 2017 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Assignment:

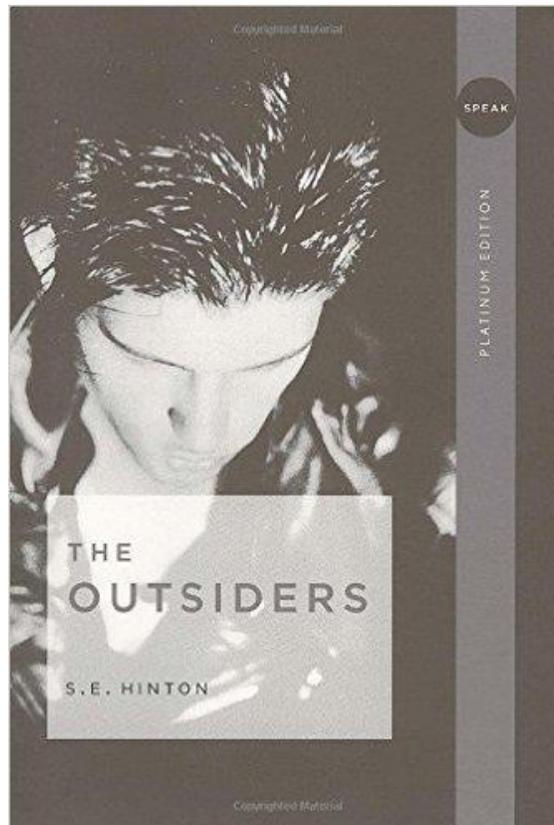
Students are required to purchase a 1 subject marble note book.

All assignments (other than Math- which is completed on line) will be placed into the notebook and handed in to the ELA teacher by Friday September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Grade 7 has 3 books that need to be purchased and read. These books will also be used when returning to school in August. It is important that each student have his/her own copy.

**Required Text #1:** *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton

Amazon Price: \$6.38



We are asking you to read *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton. This text is a coming-of-age story about a boy who tries to find himself and comprehend his identity while being surrounded by a society that is very different. This text can be purchased online or in any major bookstore.

While you are reading, after you finish each chapter (there are 12 chapters) you will write a THREE-sentence summary of what happened and a THREE-sentence personal reflection—what you liked, didn't like, thought, wondered.

All summaries and reflections will go inside of your 1 subject marble notebook.

After you read the book, you will write an essay, entitled "You versus Who." In this five-paragraph essay, you will compare yourself to ONE character of The Outsiders that you feel you can relate to.

In your essay be sure to,

- Paragraph 1: Introduction
- Paragraph 2: Explain ONE character's traits and personality
- Paragraph 3: Explain your traits and personality
- Paragraph 4: Compare your personality to a character from The Outsiders
- Paragraph 5: Conclusion

**\*\*Use details from the text to support your answer. \*\***

**BEFORE YOU BEGIN YOUR ESSAY, COPY THE GRAPHIC ORGANIZER ON THE NEXT PAGE INTO YOUR NOTEBOOK OR YOU CAN PRINT IT OUT AND GLUE/STAPLE IT INTO YOUR NOTEBOOK AND FILL IT OUT BEFORE STARTING YOUR ESSAY! MAKE SURE YOUR WRITING IS NEAT!**

 **Five-Paragraph Essay** 

Main Idea, Introductory and Thesis Paragraph

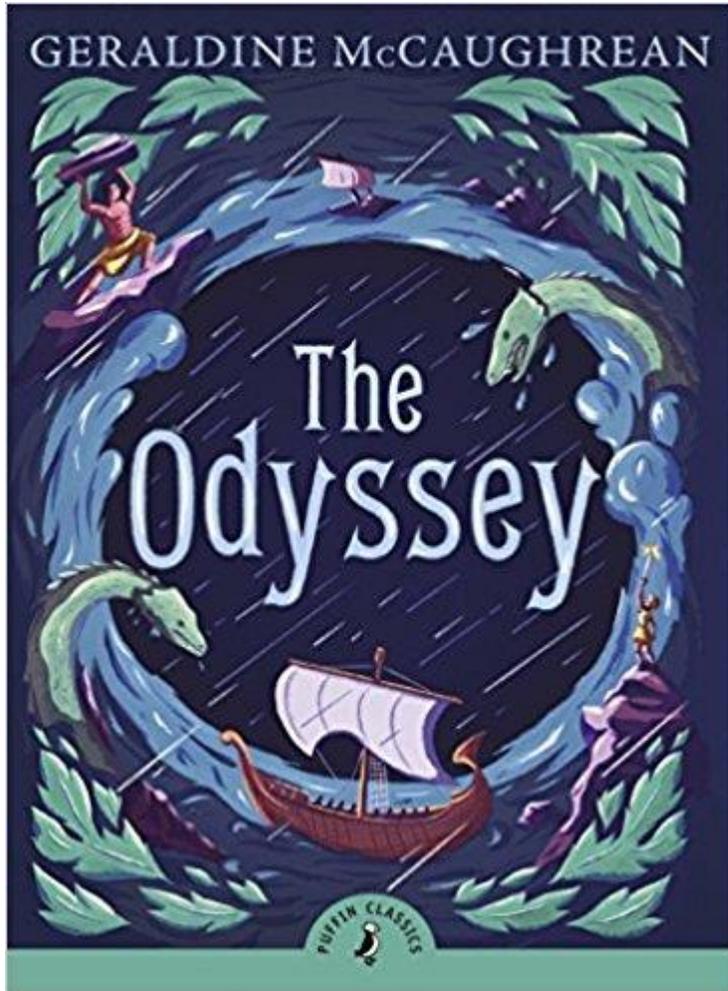
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Summary/Conclusion

Required Text #2: The Odyssey (Puffin Classics)  
by Geraldine McCaughrean (Adapter), Homer (Author)  
Amazon Price: \$5.94



**Part 1:**

While you are reading, after you finish each chapter you will write a minimum 10 sentence summary of what happened in your notebook. Write out each chapter heading with your summary below.

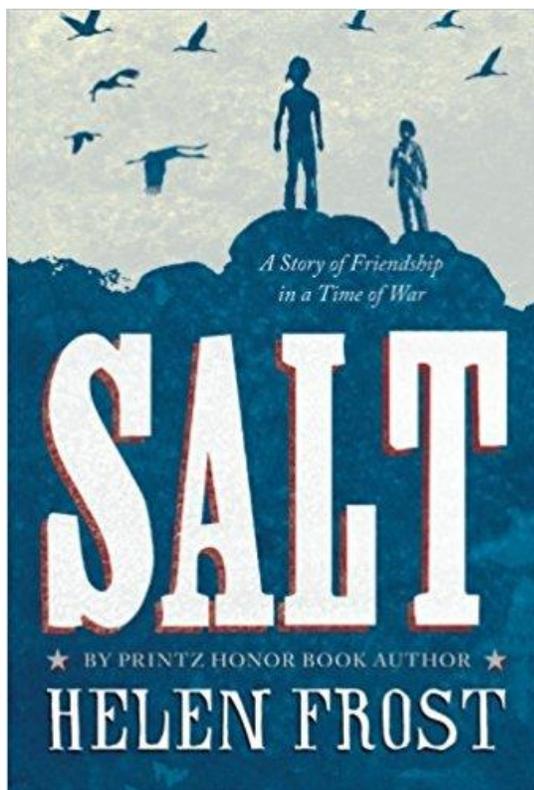
## **Part 2:**

In your notebook, write out the following questions with a complete answer response:

1. In a world governed by the gods, is there any room for human will? Do human choices make a difference?
2. The people in *The Odyssey* have no problem boasting, but they also warn against excessive pride. What's the difference? When is it okay to talk big, and when do you need to be little more humble?
3. Odysseus often gets called "tricky" Is this a compliment? An insult? Are there any times when deception is punished?
4. What kinds of roles do women play in the *Odyssey*? Which women (or goddesses) hold the most power and why?
5. Is it possible for a modern reader to accept Odysseus' killing of the suitors? If not, how does this change in values affect our enjoyment of Homer's poem?

**Required Text #3 :** *Salt: A Story of Friendship in a Time of War* by Helen Frost

Amazon Price: \$3.47



Write and answer the following questions in complete sentences in your notebook

- 1- Why does salt play such an important role in *Salt*? What is the significance?
- 2- Do you think James's father had the right to deny Old Raccoon salt? Why or why not?
- 3- In what ways are James and Anikwa similar? How are they different?
- 4- Do you think that James and Anikwa can continue to be friends? Why or why not?
- 5- At the end of the book, James whispers to his mother, "They hardly have any food. Why are they feeding us?" She answers, "You should know by now. This is who they are." What does she mean by this?
- 6- Why do you think Helen Frost told the story from two perspectives?

## **CURRENT EVENTS**

It is important to be aware of things that are happening around the world and also in the community where you live.

Your assignment is to complete **eight** current event articles.. We encourage you to use the NY Newspapers (NY Daily News/ Newsday/ NY Times) but you may also use magazine articles and on-line newspaper articles ONLY if it comes from a reliable source.

The required 8 articles that you need to have are as follows:

- 2 Science related articles
- 2 Historic articles
- 2 Health articles
- 1 Technology article
- 1 Article of your choice

### **Detailed Procedure**

1. **Choose your current events article.** After finding the article, either glue or staple it into your notebook. The article should be informative and have enough information to answer who, what, when, where, why, and how.
  
2. **Write a summary** of the article using your own words. Your summary should be **descriptive** including the important details from the article.