

GRADING GUIDELINES FOR SUMMER READING BOOK ESSAYS

Students submit an essay for each grade level book they read, at least three paragraphs in length, in response to the prompt which they select. This essay will be evaluated as Pass/Fail based on the rubric given below. Students may choose to use the same prompt for both books.

PASS

An essay which receives a “passing” score demonstrates reasonably consistent competence, though it will have occasional errors or lapses in quality. Such an essay:

- Adequately responds to the essay prompt, providing specific examples, which indicate familiarity with the chosen book.
- Is generally well-organized and comprehensible, containing an introduction, explanatory discussion, and conclusion (minimum of three paragraphs).
- May have some writing errors but none which prevent the reader from comprehending the writer’s message or intent.

FAIL

An essay which receives a “failing” score demonstrates incompetence. Such a paper is seriously flawed by one or more of the following weaknesses:

- Very poor organization (consists of only one or two paragraphs and/or lacks connection to the essay prompt).
- Very thin development (lacks specific supporting information showing minimal knowledge of the book or is off-topic).
- Writing errors which prevent the reader from comprehending the writer’s message or intent.