

Summer Reading Project

6th grade

As a Pre-AP student, you will be required to complete a summer reading project over the book, *Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story*. You will read the book and complete the attached assignments over the summer and be prepared to turn them in at the beginning of the school year. There will be a test over the book on Friday, August, 16. This is also when the completed project will be turned in. Students will also be able to take an AR test over the book in class.

The following assignments are included in this packet:

- 4 Dialectical Journals
- 10 Sticky Notes
- 5 Discussion Questions

(These will count for a test grade as well as a daily grade.)

You will have the option of purchasing your own copy of the novel or checking out a copy from the middle school. I suggest purchasing your own copy of the novel to write in it, as we will be using the novel in class the first week or two of school and your own notes may help you. HMS will also have copies available to check out if you'd rather check it out (just use post-its to take notes as you read!)

All parts of this assignment will be posted on the HMS website if you need another copy. The office will also have extra copies of the assignment. If you have any other questions about the assignment, you can reach me by email at shelleyvarnado@hjsd.net.

Happy Reading!
Mrs. Varnado

Dialectical Journals

What is a dialectical journal?

A collection of journal entries where a student records observations about the text and interacts and engages with the text on a deeper level. Each entry should include quotes as well as higher-level analysis.

What is required?

All students must fill out FOUR dialectical journals over the course of the novel that will follow this format:

1. QUOTE

Find a meaningful quote and important passage from the assigned reading. Look for passages that move the plot along, advance the conflict, or show the character of a character.

“Quote” (Author Last Name, Page #)

2. ANALYZE

Write a brief explanation about the quote. What is happening in the quote? Why is this important? How does this quote move the plot along or advance the conflict? Does the quote relate to something else in the text? Does the quote represent anything?

(2-3 complete sentences)

3. EXPLAIN

Connect this quote to one of the overall themes or concepts in the book. Why and how does this quote connect to this concept? Highlight or underline the concept within your explanation sentences.

(1-2 Complete sentences)

You will fill out the following forms to complete this portion of the assignment.

Sticky Note-Taking

<u>Type of Note</u>	<u>Note</u>	<u>Page Number</u>
Again & Again	The character keeps mentioning that the computer doesn't work. The computer is a pretty important part of the main character's job. I wonder if this is an example of foreshadowing?	Page 56
Tough Questions		
Words of the Wiser		
Aha! Moment		
Contrasts & Contradictions		
Memory Moment		

Again & Again		

Discussion Questions

PURPOSE

You will be expected to think about the following aspects of the book and the characters as you are reading. You must choose 1 QUESTION from EACH CATEGORY and give a short response(3-5 sentences) that completely and fully answers the question using text evidence as support. Your responses must be TYPED. (Use Times New Roman, size 12 font) Please type the category shown below and the question you are choosing to answer. Then give your fully developed answer.

Discussion Questions

The Title

- What is meant by the title of your book?
- Do you think the title fits your book?
- Suggest a new title for the book. What would you title the book this way?

Character Struggles

- What hardships or conflicts does the main character face?
- Who or what is the cause of the conflict(s)?
- What emotions do the conflicts stir in you?

Repeating Patterns

- What images or ideas does your author bring up over and over again?
- What significance do these symbols have to the characters?
- Why do you think the author chose those images or ideas to repeat in the book?

Responding to Hardship

- What are the consequences and outcomes of the hardship and conflicts?
- Does the main character overcome the hardship? If so, how?
- Emotionally, how does the main character deal with hardship?

People of Good Character

- Look up some quotes about good character. Anne Frank and Martin Luther King, Jr. both have several
- Which characters are/not people of good character? What proof do you have?

Predicting

- What do you think will happen next? What makes you think that?
- What do you think the outcome for the character(s) will be? What makes you think that?
- How do you hope the book will end? How do you think the book will actually end?