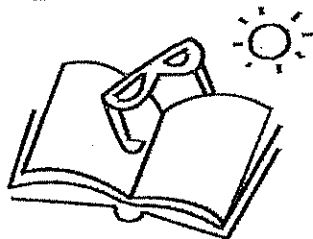


Curtis Corner Middle School, South Kingstown
LANGUAGE ARTS SKILLS PACKET: SUMMER 2011
ENTERING GRADE 7



Summer is a great time for relaxing and...keeping your reading and writing skills sharp! In this packet, you will find reading response sheets for 4 books, and brief grammar and writing tasks. Please read carefully and complete over the summer. You should turn in finished work to your Language Arts teacher **ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL**; it will count as part of your 1st Quarter grade.

THIS SUMMER, STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 7 ARE EXPECTED TO...

1. **READ.** Read 4 books and complete the response sheets; choose books you haven't read. Our local libraries can offer great suggestions.
 - **ONE** book must be in the **SCIENCE FICTION** genre; please use the specific form provided; this will be used in your science class, too.
 - **ONE** book must be an **AUTOBIOGRAPHY** (not a biography, please!); please use the specific form provided.
 - The remaining **TWO** books can be in any genre; use the forms provided.
 - If you read more than 4 books and complete extra response sheets (available on CCMS website; www.skschools.net), you may be eligible for bonus points!

To earn full credit, be sure all of your sheets...

- *Are legible and include your name.*
- *Are complete (no blanks) with strong details and thoughtful responses.*

2. **WRITE.** Follow the directions on the included sheet for more information. This may be your teacher's first impression of your writing, so do your best!

3. **SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT GRAMMAR.** Follow the directions on the included sheet.

HAVE A SAFE, HAPPY AND PRODUCTIVE SUMMER!

SUGGESTED AUTOBIOGRAPHIES/MEMOIRS

- My Thirteenth Winter* by Samantha Abeel
Thura's Diary: My Life in Wartime Iraq by Thura Al-Windawi
A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier by Ishmael Beah
The Year We Disappeared: A Father-Daughter Memoir by Cylin Busby & John Busby
Leaving Glorytown: One Boy's Struggle Under Castro by Eduardo F. Calcines
Disguised: A Wartime Memoir by Rita la Fontaine de Clercq Zubli
King of the Wild Frontier: An Ill-Advised Autobiography by Chris Crutcher
Going Solo by Roald Dahl
Funny in Farsi by Firoozeh Dumas
Zlata's Diary by Zlata Filipovic
The Abracadabra Kid: A Writer's Life by Sid Fleischman
Hole in My Life by Jack Gantos
Episodes: My Life as I See It by Blaze Ginsberg
Stick Figure: A Story of My Former Self by Lori Gottlieb
Soul Surfer by Bethany Hamilton
Tony Hawk: Professional Skateboarder by Tony Hawk
The Life You Imagine: Life Lessons for Achieving Your Dreams by Derek Jeter
Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution by Ji-li
The Bite of the Mango by Mariatu Kamara
Alive in the Killing Fields: Surviving the Khmer Rouge Genocide
Rock 'n' Roll Soldier: A Memoir by Dean Ellis Kohler
Michele Kwan: Heart of a Champion by Michele Kwan
Facing the Lion: Growing Up Maasai on the African Savanna by Joseph Lemasolai Lekuton
Chinese Cinderella by Adeline Yen Mah
Bad Boy: A Memoir by Walter Dean Myers
Basher Five-Two: The True Story of Fighter Pilot Captain Scott O'Grady by Scott O'Grady
I Beat the Odds: From Homelessness to the Blind Side and Beyond by Michael Oher
Big Papi: My Story of Big Dreams and Big Hits by David Ortiz
Rosa Parks: My Story by Rosa Parks
Guts: The True Stories Behind Hatchet and the Brian Books by Gary Paulsen
Within Reach: My Everest Story by Mark Pfitzer
No Limits: The Will to Succeed by Michael Phelps
Three Little Words: A Memoir by Ashley Rhodes-Courter
Ghosts of War: The true story of a 19-year-old GI by Ryan Smithson
Condoleezza Rice: A Memoir of My Extraordinary, Ordinary Family & Me by Condoleezza Rice
Knots in My Yo-Yo String: The Autobiography of a Kid by Jerry Spinelli
It Came From Ohio: My Life as a Writer by R.L. Stine
Teen Angst? Naaah...a quasi-autobiography by Ned Vizzini
When I Was a Soldier: A Memoir by Valérie Zenatti
The Pigman and Me by Paul Zindel

SUGGESTED SCIENCE FICTION Many of these titles are part of a series, so if you enjoy the first book, try the next!

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams

Diary of Pelly D by L.J. Adlington

Feed by M.T. Anderson

The Kindling by Jennifer Armstrong

I, Robot by Isaac Asimov

Drought by Pam Bachorz

Ship Breaker by Paulo Bacigalupi

Spacer and Rat by Margaret Bechard

Exodus by Julie Bertagna

The Awakening by Michael Carroll

Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins

Matched by Ally Condie

Wither by Lauren DeStafano

Brain Jack by Brian Falkner

Dark Life by Kat Falls

House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer

Interworld by Neil Gaiman

The Other Side of the Island by Allegra Goodman

Gone by Michael Grant

Double Identity: Among the Hidden; Turnabout by Margaret Peterson

Siberia by Ann Halam

Worldshaker by Richard Harland

Rash by Pete Hautman

The Lab by Jack Heath

Living Hell by Catherine Jinks

Stuck on Earth by David Klass

Epic by Conor Kostick

The Goodness Gene by Sonia Levitin

I Am Number Four by Pittacus Lore

Black Hole Sun by David Macinnis

The Declaration by Gemma Malley

The Unidentified by Rae-Mariz

The Reminder by Rune Michaels

Birthmarked by Caragh O'Brien

The Adoration of Jenna Fox by Mary E. Pearson

Life as We Knew It by Susan Beth Pfeffer

The Last Book in the Universe by Rodman Philbrick

Mortal Engines by Philip Reeve

Unwind by Neal Shusterman

GemX by Nicky Singer

The Comet's Curse: A Galahad Book by Dom Testa

Skinned by Robin Wasserman

Double Helix by Nancy Werlin

Leviathan; Uglies by Scott Westerfeld

RESPONSE SHEET FOR SCIENCE FICTION BOOK: GRADE 7

Name _____

Book Title _____ Author _____

When Read _____ # Pages _____

Science Fiction is a form of fantasy in which scientific facts, assumptions or hypotheses form the basis of the plot.

There are 7 elements of the SCIENCE FICTION genre:

1. TECHNOLOGY-applied Science; anything that makes life easier.
2. INVENTION-a new device.
3. THE FUTURE-any point in time ahead of the present day.
4. EXTRAPOLATION-to estimate the unknown based on known facts.
5. SCIENTIFIC METHOD-the method of steps a scientist would use.
6. OTHER PLACES/DIMENSIONS-another planet/world/universe.
7. CATASTROPHES-disasters: man made or caused by nature.

In order for a book to be considered SCIENCE FICTION, it must have at least FOUR of the above elements. In the chart below, identify quotes and page #s from your book that are examples of these elements. (You will need these quotes for a future writing assignment).

Element #	Examples from the text/ direct quotes:	Page #

YOUR NAME _____ GRADE _____ DATES READ _____

TITLE _____ AUTHOR _____

GENRE _____ #PAGES _____ LEGIBLE HANDWRITING PLEASE!!

PLOT LIST THE 3 MOST IMPORTANT EVENTS (ONE FROM BEGINNING, MIDDLE, END)

• B: _____

• M: _____

• E: _____

SETTING DESCRIBE WHERE/WHEN OF STORY USING AT LEAST 3 SPECIFIC DETAILS

WHERE: _____

WHEN: _____

MAIN CHARACTER(S) LIST 2 AND AT LEAST 2 IMPORTANT TRAITS FOR EACH

1 _____

• _____

2 _____

• _____

CONFLICT DESCRIBE THE MAIN PROBLEM(S) IN 1-2 COMPLETE SENTENCES

RESOLUTION EXPLAIN IF/HOW PROBLEM GETS SOLVED OR ENDS

THEME WHAT IS THE AUTHOR'S MESSAGE/LIFE LESSON IN THIS BOOK?

I would _____ would not _____ recommend this book because...

YOUR NAME _____

GRADE _____ DATES READ _____

TITLE _____

AUTHOR _____

GENRE _____

#PAGES _____

LEGIBLE HANDWRITING PLEASE!!

PLOT LIST THE 3 MOST IMPORTANT EVENTS (ONE FROM BEGINNING, MIDDLE, END)

SETTING DESCRIBE WHERE/WHEN OF STORY USING AT LEAST 3 SPECIFIC DETAILS

MAIN CHARACTER(S) LIST 2 AND AT LEAST 2 IMPORTANT TRAITS FOR EACH

• B: _____

WHERE: _____

1 _____

• M: _____

WHEN: _____

• _____

• E: _____

2 _____

CONFLICT DESCRIBE THE MAIN PROBLEM(S) IN 1-2 COMPLETE SENTENCES

RESOLUTION EXPLAIN IF/HOW PROBLEM GETS SOLVED OR ENDS

THEME WHAT IS THE AUTHOR'S MESSAGE/LIFE LESSON IN THIS BOOK?

I would _____ would not _____ recommend this book because...

YOUR NAME _____

RESPONSE SHEET FOR AUTOBIOGRAPHY

TITLE _____

AUTHOR _____

#PAGES _____

DATES READ _____

LEGIBLE HANDWRITING PLEASE!!

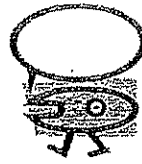
K: What did you KNOW about this person before reading this book?

W: What did you WANT TO KNOW about this person from reading this book?

L: What did you LEARN about this person after reading this book?

Explain in at least 3 sentences how reading about this person can be useful or connected to your own life. BE SPECIFIC!

Name _____



SUMMER GRAMMAR REVIEW

For each number below, write 2 examples. We will use these in a fun "Mad-Libs" activity at the start of school, so come prepared!

NOTE: PLEASE DO YOUR OWN WORK. IF YOU DO NOT KNOW WHAT TO WRITE, LEAVE IT BLANK.

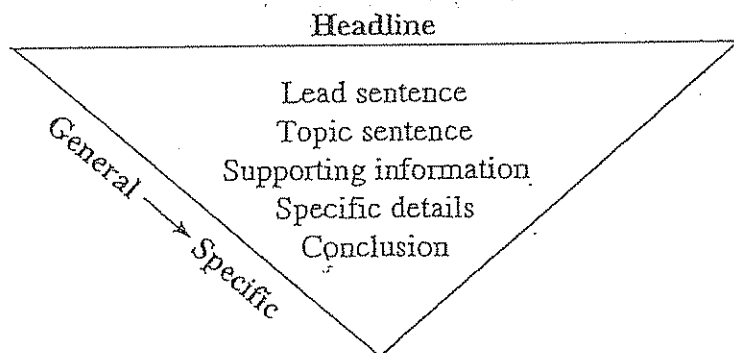
1. Common nouns _____
2. Proper nouns _____
3. Plural nouns _____
4. Possessive nouns _____
5. Pronouns _____
6. Action verbs _____
7. Linking verbs _____
8. Adjectives _____
9. Adverbs _____
10. Prepositional Phrases _____
11. Conjunctions _____
12. Interjections _____

Write 2 SIMPLE SENTENCES and draw a line between the subject and predicate.



SUMMER WRITING TASK: THE POWER PARAGRAPH

For this writing task, choose any event/moment from your summer that you would like to share OR a current/recent event from local, national or world news and write ONE PARAGRAPH, following the model provided, to describe it in detail. Use the graphic organizer on the back to plan your paragraph and then write (or type) it on a separate sheet of paper. Use the diagram and sample below to do your best work.



Read the following news article from *Camper World News* to see an example of how a *power paragraph* works.

SUMMER CAMP EVACUATES

Teenagers from Camp We-Wanna-Go-Home were given the boot on Tuesday. Counselors of the camp said an evacuation was necessary because of a missing pet snake. Campers reported early Tuesday morning that a pet python named Boomerang had been smuggled into camp in a camper's duffel bag. The snake had been sleeping under the camper's bed, where the boy had been supplying it with mice and other small rodents. Most of the campers were unaware of Boomerang's presence and were very concerned when a snake was reported on the loose. At eight feet long and 100 pounds, this snake could put the squeeze on an unsuspecting victim. Camp We-Wanna-Go-Home will remain closed until the snake is located. Officials of the camp have not discussed any refund to campers at this time.

GRAPHIC ORGANIZER FOR POWER PARAGRAPH

HEADLINE (Title of Paragraph; make it interesting!)

LEAD (Attention-grabbing start; may be 1-2 sentences)

TOPIC/THESIS SENTENCE (Main or controlling idea of paragraph)

SUPPORT SENTENCE(S) (Important, more specific info about topic)

DETAIL SENTENCE(S) (Very specific, interesting info to add to support)

CONCLUSION (Ending/Wrap-up of Paragraph)

Complete and write or type final paragraph on separate sheet of paper. Be sure to include your name.