

Directions: Directions: On a separate sheet of lined paper, neatly answer the questions below in complete sentences. You will be graded on neatness and quality of the answers.

1. When and where does the story take place?
2. Who is telling the story?
3. Who is the protagonist of the story?
4. Who or what is the antagonist of the story?
5. What is the theme of the story and why is it important?
6. Who was Bell and what happened to him?
7. Describe Old Yeller.
8. What does the way Old Yeller looks like give the reader an idea about his past?
9. How does Arliss react when he first sees the dog?
10. What are the Salt Licks and why are they important?
11. Describe two comical, events that happen with the old cart.
12. Why did the mother bear attack Arliss?
13. How did Travis' feelings about Old Yeller change after the bear attack?
14. What is hydrophobia and what effects does it have?
15. Describe the various methods Travis used in his attempts to keep Old Yeller from wandering off at night.
16. What did Bud Searcy tell Travis Coates when he visited their home?
17. In Chapter 10, Why did Travis decide to leave Old Yeller behind? What would you have done?
18. In chapter 11, what are the signs that Travis' leg has worsened?
19. How do Mama and Travis react when Bud Searcy offers to leave Lisbeth behind to help their family?
20. In Chapter 13, describe the actions of Spot and the roan bull during the next few days.
21. What horrific scene unfolds in front of the cabin in chapter 15?

22. How do you feel at the end of chapter 15? Use quality adjectives to answer the question.
23. Summarize what Papa tells Travis about life.

8th Grade Summer Reading Questions: *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck

Directions: On a separate sheet of lined paper, neatly answer the questions below in complete sentences. You will be graded on neatness and quality of the answers.

1. Who are the three important characters? Describe each using 2-3 details.
2. Describe how Kino's life is symbolized in "songs". What contrasting songs are emphasized at different times?
3. Describe Kino and Juana's community and way of life.
4. What is the difference between the "city of grass huts" and the "city of stone"?
5. Why does Kino want to save one oyster to open last?
6. What cures Coyotito's scorpion bite?
7. In selling the pearl, what disadvantages and advantages did Kino have? Include at least one for each.

Disadvantages:

Advantages:

8. By the end of Chapter 4, what decision had Kino reached concerning what to do with the pearl? Was he right or wrong to do what he did? Why?
9. List the reasons the pearl dealers give Kino for offering him such a low price for the pearl?
10. By the end of Chapter 5, the pearl has become a moral issue to Kino. How does he express it? How do you explain it?
11. How does the author explain Kino at the beginning of chapter 6?
12. What was Kino's final action? Why?
13. Now that you have finished reading the book, explain why the foreword says this story might be a parable (fable/tale)?

9th Grade Summer Reading Questions

for [The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens](#), by Sean Covey

Directions: Answer the questions below in complete sentences. You will be graded on neatness and quality of the answers.

1. What is a principle?
2. What is a paradigm?
3. What does proactive mean? Give an example of a proactive choice you have made.
4. What are seven tips Covey gives to help you become proactive?
5. What does reactive mean? When and where do you tend to be the most reactive?
6. What does it mean to begin with the end in mind?
7. Think of a time when you acted in the face of fear and took a risk to move outside of your comfort zone. What did you learn?
8. How would you define "Public Victory"?
9. Write your definition of win-win thinking.
10. What is synergy?
11. What are the action steps to increase synergy in your life?
12. What does the quote "Be the change you wish to see in the world" mean? Explain.

Summer Reading/Writing Tasks for Fahrenheit 451, by Ray Bradbury

This assignment will be graded as a paper: Spelling, grammar, and details count. Also, your book will be checked for annotations you've made, e.g., notes in the margins and highlighting.

1. Is Montag happy in Chapter 1? *Explain in about three sentences, giving details from the text.*
2. How and why do elements of the conversations with Clarisse affect Montag? *Write a full paragraph of at least 8 sentences on this. Include a good, specific topic sentence and two quotations (introduced, integrated, and analyzed.)*
3. What do Clarisse's accounts of school and leisure activities reveal about youth culture in the book? *Answer in a full paragraph of at least 5 sentences, using (either or both) quotations and specific examples.*
4. Write a paragraph identifying points of contrast between the scenes with Clarisse and those with Mildred.
5. According to Beatty, what were the causes of the institution of firemen? *Make a chronological list. (Bullet points are fine.)*
6. Which details of Beatty's account (of firemen) make it credible/incredible? Is his account a *history* or simply a *fable* meant to influence Montag's behavior? *Answer in two or three sentences.*
7. What does Beatty mean when he states, "Things began to have *mass*"? *Answer in a paragraph, using supporting quotations.*
8. Reread Montag's conversation with Faber in Chapter Two (76-89) and Granger's account of history (144-150). *Summarize each in a paragraph (2 paragraphs)*
9. *Isolate and write in your notebook three to five points of comparison between these discourses (in question 8) with that of Beatty on 51-60.*
10. Is Montag happier at the end of the novel than he was at the beginning? How can the reader tell? *Explain in several sentences.*
11. Formulate a *thesis* for the following prompt: **What is Bradbury's message? What does he want the reader to take away from this novel?**

Summer Reading Writing Tasks for

Mythology: Timeless Tales of Gods and Heroes, by Edith Hamilton

Students should read everything **except** the sections listed below. There will be a heavily-weighted test when students return to school. They will be expected to recognize the various characters and their exploits. Students should know both the Greek and the Roman names of each of the gods (if Hamilton gives this information.)

1. Skip "Demeter" and "Ceres" (pgs. 55-75).
2. Skip "The Earliest Heroes," (pgs. 95-120).
3. Skip "Pyramus and Thisbe" (pgs. 135-138).
4. Skip "Celyx and Alcyone," (pgs. 143-146).
5. Skip "Endymion," "Daphne," and "Alpheus and Arethusa," (pgs. 154-159).
6. Skip "The Quest for the Golden Fleece," (pgs. 160-180).
7. Skip "Perseus," "Theseus," and "Atalanta," (pgs. 196-223, 245-253).
8. Skip "The Trojan War," "The Fall of Troy," "The Adventures of Odysseus," "The Adventures of Aeneas," (pgs. 253-335).
9. Skip "Tantalus and Niobe" (pgs. 346-349).
10. Skip "Iphigenia Among the Taurians," (pgs. 363-372).
11. Skip "Oedipus," "Antigone," and "The Seven Against Thebes," and all of the "The Royal House of Athens" (pgs. 376-409).
12. Skip Sections 6 ("The Less Important Myths") and 7 ("The Mythology of the Norsemen") (pgs. 410-462).

Key Terms

Greek Writers (pgs. 12-16)

Homer: Author of the epic poems *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*. Hesiod and Homer are the two earliest Greek poets for whom we have complete works.

Hesiod: Homer and Hesiod are the two earliest Greek poets for whom we have complete works. Author of the short epics *Works and Days* and *Theogony*. Both a poet and a farmer.

“Homeric Hymns.” These are poems praising and telling stories about the Greek gods. They are called “Homeric” because they are written in Homer’s style, but we do not know who wrote them.

Pindar: a Greek poet who wrote odes celebrating excellent Greek athletes

Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides: the three most famous Athenian tragedians (people who write tragic plays or tragedies). We will read Sophocles’s *Oedipus the King* this year.

Aristophanes: The most famous Athenian comedian (a person who writes comic plays or comedies).

Plato: A Greek philosopher. He wrote prose, not poetry.

Herodotus: A Greek historian (who therefore wrote prose, not poetry). [To do next year, not tested this year]

Roman Writers (pgs. 12-16)

Virgil: The most important Roman poet.

Horace: A Roman poet.

Ovid: A Roman poet who writes about myths. We will read some of his *Metamorphoses* this year.

Catullus: A Roman poet.

Gods and Titans

Titans: The powerful supernatural gods or god-like beings

Mount Olympus:

Cronos / Saturn:

Zeus / Jupiter:

Hera / Juno:

Poseidon / Neptune:

Hades / Pluto

Athena / Minerva

Apollo

Artemis / Diana

Aphrodite / Venus

Hermes / Mercury

Ares / Mars

Hephaestus / Vulcan / Mulciber

Eros / Cupid:

Iris:

Graces:

Muses:

Nereus / Old Man of the Sea:

Charon:

Cerberus:

Aeolus:

Dionysus / Bacchus:

Phaeton and Helios:

Daedalus and Icarus: