

American Literature Summer Reading: (choose two books)

The Deerslayer

Uncle Tom's Cabin

The Last of the Mohicans

The Portrait of a Lady

In His Steps

Christy

Summer Reading Instructions

Please write your reports in four paragraphs. Be sure to indent the first word of each paragraph. Please use your best handwriting or typing. Do not skip lines between paragraphs. Remember that a book report is not supposed to retell the story in detail. Below are directions for writing your book report.

In paragraph one tell in the first sentence the name of the book, underline it, and give the name of the author. Next tell if the book is fiction or non-fiction. Then tell what the book is about in three to four sentences. You are briefly summarizing the plot.

Paragraph two deals with important main characters in the book (usually 2 to 4 characters). Take each character who is important to the plot of the story and tell what he/she is like, why you find the character interesting and why you like or dislike him. Also look at each character you have described and think whether he has changed at all during the course of the action (learned anything, grown kinder, wiser, etc.); is he different in any important way at the end of the book?

In paragraph three describe one incident or scene which you found interesting.

This should include details and should give a full picture of the incident you have picked. Be sure to tell how the incident made you feel: sad, excited, angry, frightened, joyful, etc. Why did you pick this particular incident to write about?

In the fourth and last paragraph give a short evaluation of the book. What did you learn from reading it? What did you especially like about the book? Was there anything which you felt could have been improved? Tell honestly if the book was too easy, just right, or too difficult for your reading level. Tell if this was an enjoyable story to read but could be easily forgotten. If you think of this book in the future, what will you remember about it? Imagine you have a bookshelf in your bedroom which includes only your "favorites". Why or why not would this book be included?

Please pick books that you will enjoy! Summer is a great time to escape into a great book! Please e-mail me your book reports at sjacobsen@heritagea.org or bring them to class on the first day of school.

Parents, please let this be the student's own work. I know it is tempting to help them "polish" their reports, but I want this to give me a good idea of their writing ability so I know what we need to focus on this year. Thanks so much.

If you have questions, feel free to contact me at the e-mail address above. I am looking forward to teaching each of you this coming year!