

# **Rising Sixth Grade** **English/Language Arts**



## **Middle School** **Summer Acceleration** **Packet**

**Summer 2021**

## Welcome to E/LA Middle School!

Dear scholar:

Welcome to English/Language Arts Middle School! Congratulations for having a successful school year! E/LA Middle School will be fun, yet challenging. In an effort to continue to prepare you for the year ahead, you will be required to complete the attached summer E/LA acceleration activity packet which should be turned in upon your return to school in the fall on **Tuesday, September 10, 2021.** The activities will count as part of your first quarter grade. Each of the required texts can be found in a public library or on sites like Amazon. **It is best to complete this assignment in a journal and submit it when you return.** If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you and let's have a successful year!

Ms. K. Ross

Middle School English/Language Arts Teacher

# RISING 6<sup>th</sup> GRADE

## REQUIRED SUMMER E/LA ASSIGNMENT I

\*\*\***IXL ASSIGNMENTS:** Please complete the following **IXL assignments:** IXL - All Writing; B - Theme & E - Literary Devices; O - Prefixes and Suffixes

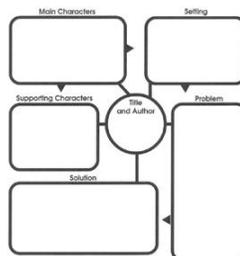
**Standards: Literary Devices -LA.6.WRFV.2-**Students will identify and interpret figurative language (including similes, comparisons that use like or as, and metaphors, implied comparisons) and words with multiple meanings. **LA.6.LRA.6-Theme** - Students will identify and analyze features of themes conveyed through characters, actions, and images. **Writing - LA.6.WP.8-**Review, evaluate, and revise writing for meaning and clarity. **Prefixes & Suffixes - LA.6.WRFV.3-**Recognize the origins and meanings of frequently used foreign words in English and use these words accurately in speaking and writing.

**\*Required Assignment I Dates:** June 21-July 16, 2021

**Assigned Text:** Choose **one** of the following fiction books to read from **June 21 to July 16**. The assignments will be included in your **first quarter grade** and are due **Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021**.

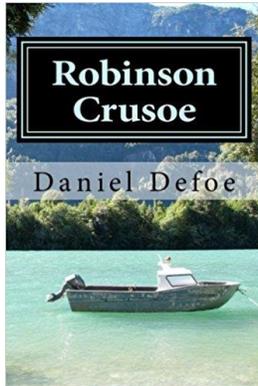
**You will complete the following:**

1. A **double-entry journal** for **each chapter** of your chosen text based on a **sentence** or a passage (typically **5 to 7** sentences) that you deem **significant** (Avoid 1-page passages.). (**See example above.**) Analyze each passage for common literary devices, such as metaphors, similes, imagery and/or respond to each passage using the sentence starters provided.
2. After reading the novel, you will complete a **story map** that includes: **theme, main characters, supporting characters, setting, problem, resolution, and summary of the novel.**

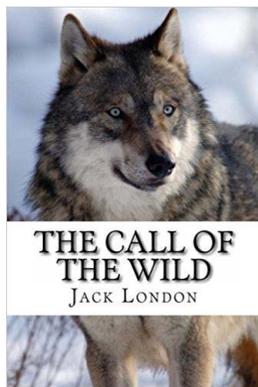


3. You will complete a **one-page response** (5 paragraphs) to the **essay question** for your chosen novel.

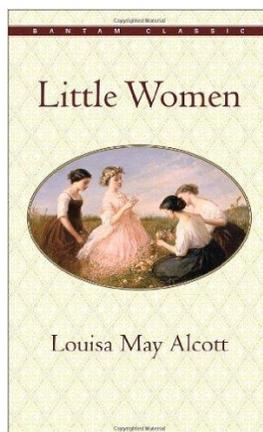
### Assignment #1 Novel Choices:



“[Robinson Crusoe](#) is an Englishman from the town of York in the seventeenth century, the youngest son of a merchant of German origin. Encouraged by his father to study law, Crusoe expresses his wish to go to sea instead. His family is against Crusoe going out to sea, and his father explains that it is better to seek a modest, secure life for oneself. Initially, Robinson is committed to obeying his father, but he eventually succumbs to temptation and embarks on a ship bound for London with a friend. When a storm causes the near deaths of Crusoe and his friend, the friend is dissuaded from sea travel, but Crusoe still goes on to set himself up as merchant on a ship leaving London.” (Taken from SparkNotes)

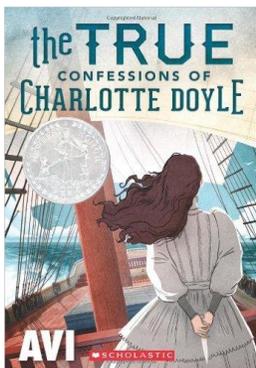


*The Call of the Wild*, considered by many London's greatest novel, is a gripping tale of a heroic dog that, thrust into the brutal life of the Alaska Gold Rush, ultimately faces a choice between living in man's world and returning to nature. Adventure and dog-story enthusiasts as well as students and devotees of American literature will find this classic work a thrilling, memorable reading experience. (Taken from Amazon)



“**Little Women** is one of the best loved books of all time. Lovely Meg, talented Jo, frail Beth, spoiled Amy: these are hard lessons of poverty and of growing up in New England during the Civil War. Through their dreams, plays, pranks, letters, illnesses, and courtships, women of all ages have become a part of this remarkable family and have felt the deep sadness when Meg leaves the circle of sisters to be married at the end of Part I. Part II, chronicles Meg's joys and mishaps as a young wife and mother, Jo's struggle to become a writer, Beth's tragedy, and Amy's artistic pursuits and unexpected romance. Based on Louise May Alcott's childhood, this lively portrait of nineteenth-century family life possesses a lasting vitality that has endeared it to generations of readers.”(Taken from Amazon.)

Thirteen-year-old Charlotte Doyle is excited to return home from her school in England to her family in Rhode Island in the summer of 1832. But when the two families she was supposed to travel with mysteriously cancel their trips, Charlotte finds herself the lone passenger on a long sea voyage with a cruel captain and a mutinous crew.



Worse yet, soon after stepping aboard the ship, she becomes enmeshed in a conflict between them! What begins as an eagerly anticipated ocean crossing turns into a harrowing journey, where Charlotte gains a villainous enemy . . . and is put on trial for murder! (*Taken from Amazon.*)

### **Assignment #1 Essay Questions:**

- Defoe, Daniel. *Robinson Crusoe* In many ways Crusoe appears to be the same sort of person at the end of the novel as he is at the beginning. Despite decades of solitude and exile, wars with cannibals, and the subjugation of a mutiny, Crusoe, it appears, hardly seems to grow or develop. Is Crusoe an unchanging character, or does he change in subtle ways as a result of his ordeal?
- London, Jack. *The Call of the Wild* Even though Buck was a leader and a fighter, he was afraid. What was Buck's fear and why did this frighten him? Support your answer with situations from the book.
- Mae Alcott, Louisa. *Little Women* Which relationship is the most important of the novel: Jo and Amy, Jo and Laurie or Jo and Bhaer? Explain your answer.
- Avi. *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* Life for girls in 1832 was much different from life in the 21st century. What advantages do girls have today? What aspects of today's world would Charlotte likely appreciate most?



### **Double-Entry Journal Directions**



A **double-entry journal** is *your conversation* with the text. Use the **left-hand side of the page** to record a sentence or sentences from the text. **Copy the passage exactly as it is written.** It can be a key event, interesting language, a critical fact, a main idea, a problem, a character sketch, etc. Remember to write the page number. **Create a journal entry for each chapter.**

1. Use the **right-hand side of the page** to respond to your selected passage. You can respond with feelings, questions, connections, explanations, theories, analyses, predictions, etc. Remember to respond with at least two (2) clear and complete sentences.
2. Analyze the passage for literary devices, etc. as well as other elements based on the **sample sentence starters.**

● **Sentence Starters for Right Side - My Response**

- ★ These words/phrases make me think of . . .
- ★ This passage reminds me of a time when . . .
- ★ I had a similar conflict/situation when . . .
- ★ This passage reminds me of \_\_\_\_ in another piece I have read (tell what it is you read) . .
- ★ The author has created a \_\_\_\_ mood by . . .
- ★ The most important part is . . .
- ★ I infer . . .
- ★ I am confused. . .
- ★ I previously thought \_\_\_\_ about \_\_\_\_\_. Now my thinking has changed because..

**Double-Entry Journal Example:**

<b>What the Text Says</b>	<b>Page #</b>	<b>My Analysis</b>
“The flower garden was strained with rotting brown magnolia petals and iron weeds grew rank amid the purple phlox...the last graveyard flowers were blooming.”	1	From the onset of the story, James Hurst creates the image of death through his description of the dying flowers and specific reference to the “graveyard flowers.” The tone is heavy and dark creating a sense of foreboding. It is clear that the beauty of the story may be part of the sadness. I think this means someone might be sick or die.

(Source: [https://www.oceanport.k12.nj.us/cms/lib08/NJ01912851/Centricity/Domain/164/Entering%205th-8th%20Grade%20Summer%20Reading%202014\\_%20Double%20Entry%20Journal.pdf](https://www.oceanport.k12.nj.us/cms/lib08/NJ01912851/Centricity/Domain/164/Entering%205th-8th%20Grade%20Summer%20Reading%202014_%20Double%20Entry%20Journal.pdf))

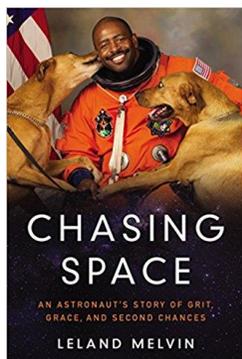
**\*Assignment 2 Dates:** July 26-August 20, 2021

**Assigned Text:** Choose **one** of the following nonfiction books to read from **July 26 - August 20**. The assignments will be included in your **first quarter grade** and are due **Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021**.

**You will complete the following:**

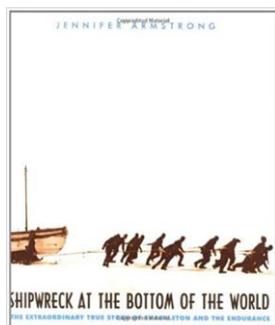
1. A **summary** of **each chapter** of your chosen text. A minimum of 4 to 5 sentences.
2. Write a **poem** about your book. A minimum of 16 lines.
3. You will complete a **one-page response** (5 paragraphs) to the **essay question** for your chosen text.

## **Assignment 2 Nonfiction Text Choices and Essay Questions:**



In this revelatory and moving memoir, a former NASA astronaut and NFL wide receiver shares his personal journey from the gridiron to the stars, examining the intersecting roles of community, perseverance and grace that align to create the opportunities for success. Leland Melvin is the only person in human history to catch a pass in the National Football League and in space. Though his path to the heavens was riddled with setbacks and injury, Leland persevered to reach the stars. (Taken from Amazon)

**Essay Question:** Describe the challenges Leland faced to reach his goals.



In August 1914, Ernest Shackleton and 27 men sailed from England in an attempt to become the first team of explorers to cross Antarctica from one side to the other. Five months later and still 100 miles from land, their ship, Endurance, became trapped in ice. The expedition survived another five months camping on ice floes, followed by a perilous journey through stormy seas to remote and unvisited Elephant Island. In a dramatic climax to this amazing survival story, Shackleton and five others navigated 800 miles of treacherous open ocean in a 20-foot boat to fetch a rescue ship. (Taken from Amazon)

**Essay Question:** Describe two themes found in the text.

**\*Assignment 3 Dates:** August 23-August 26, 2021

**Assigned Text:** Read two poems from the following book of poetry. The assignments will be included in your **first quarter grade** and are due **Friday, September 10, 2021.**

**You will complete the following:**

3. A summary of **three poems**. A minimum of 4 to 5 sentences.

4. Examples of the literary devices and elements that you have studied in 5<sup>th</sup> grade-**theme, similes, imagery, and metaphors**-found in each poem with text evidence. Ex. Simile-Line 3-  
“Her eyes were as bright as the sun.”

**Poetry Book for Assignment 3**

