

Eighth Grade English
Lee-Scott Academy
2023-2024

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

Welcome to Eighth Grade English! This summer you will be reading two (2) novels. The first is a classic story by Jeanne DuPrau entitled, *The City of Ember*. The second novel is your choice from the list in Part II. The assignments for summer reading are described below. All assignments will be due the first week of school. There will also be a test on each novel to assess knowledge and understanding within the second week of school.

Part I: Required Reading:

The City of Ember by Jeanne DuPrau (fiction)

Quick Summary: Lina and Doon discover the truth about their city and a secret message propels them to plan an escape.

Assignment: After reading *The City of Ember*, complete the questions on page 2 of this document.

Part II: Required Fiction Choice - Choose **one (1)** book from the list below:

A. *Call of the Wild* by Jack London (fiction)

Quick Summary: Buck, who has a peaceful life in California, suddenly finds himself in the frozen wild of Alaska learning how to survive during the Klondike Gold Rush.

B. *Grayson* by Lynne Cox (autobiography)

Quick Summary: Lynne, an Olympian, has a unique encounter with a baby whale as she trains in the ocean off California's coast.

Assignment: After reading 1 of the 2 novels listed above, complete the form on page 3 of this document.

The City of Ember Summer Reading Assignment for Eighth Grade English

Bibliography: DuPrau, Jeanne. *The City of Ember*. New York: Random House/Yearling Book, 2003.

Part I. SETTING. Look at the map in the book to answer the following questions.

- A. What lies beyond the trash heaps?
- B. What building is located near the intersection of Lampling Street and Rim Street?
- C. Lina's apartment is across the street from Quillum Square. Where is Doon's apartment?

Part II. Comprehension

- 1. Why were the instructions locked in a box for 200 years? _____
Who was the 7th mayor and what did he do with the box? _____
- 2. Assignments. Why did Lina agree to change jobs? _____

Lizzy	
Chet	
Lina	
Doon	

- 3. What happens when "anger is boss" according to Doon's father?
- 4. Who are the only people who can the storage rooms?
- 5. Why were the guards looking for Lina?
- 6. Why was "Singing Day" so important? What do the titles of the songs convey to the reader?
- 7. Why was Lina hesitant to leave Ember?
- 8. How did they leave the City of Ember?
- 9. Where did they go?
- 10. Who wrote the notebook that Lina found?
- 11. What did they learn about Ember?
- 12. What was in the message they sent to the people of Ember?

Novel of Choice Summer Reading Assignment for Eighth Grade English

1. Which novel did you choose? (Author & Title.)

2. Why did you choose this one?

3. Complete the following information about the main character.

(Example: Jake is a teenager who travels to the Amazon to help establish a wild animal preserve. Most of the other characters think Jake is trustworthy and hard-working.)

_____ is a _____ who _____
Most of the other characters think this character is _____

One thing this character says/does often is _____ as
shown in the scene where he/she _____

Overall, I would say this character is _____

4. Describe the setting of the novel. Consider place/time.

5. Choose 1 quote from the novel that best represents the novel and explain its importance in a short paragraph. Remember to cite text. (author page#)

6. Describe one favorite/memorable scene in the novel (2-3 sentences).

7. What is the readability of this novel? (Consider: time spent, difficulty of text, vocabulary, plot twists)

8. Book Rating

Definite Read.

Good; kept my attention.

Okay, not great.