

Summer Reading Assignment

This is an optional assignment for rising eighth graders at Glenridge Middle School.

GMS is an International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program school, and students strive to be academically successful, socially-minded critical thinkers who actively participate as global citizens.

As global citizens, we learn about other cultures and reading is a great way to do that. For this assignment, students will read a novel of their choice with an international focus. This means that the book is:

- Set outside the United States,
- Written by an author who is not from the United States, or
- Focuses on the experiences of a person moving to the United States from another country.

As you read, put a sticky note next to things that jump out at you. Write a quick note so you can remember what you were thinking. If nothing jumps out at you by the time you have finished, **go back** and find something to respond to.

After reading, complete parts 1 and 2 detailed below.

Part 1: Create a slide presentation to introduce and present your book. How would you “sell” this book to another person? How would you convince another person to read this book? Include a summary.

Make sure your slides are graphically pleasing. Consider backgrounds, font (color and size), punctuation, use of bullets vs paragraph format, pictures or other graphic elements you could use.

Part 2: Choose **ONE** of the options below. You can incorporate your response into your slide presentation, or complete it on a separate google doc.

For each option, write at least two solid paragraphs and incorporate text evidence to support your ideas.

Give an Opinion

Choose an incident or a particular aspect of a specific character, introduce it, explain the context, and then provide a thoughtful, insightful opinion.

Analyze the Purpose of Dialogue

Select a line or a few lines of dialogue. Introduce it, explain the context, and analyze the purpose of that dialogue in your book.

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Prove a Character Trait

Introduce a particular character and explain how the author uses indirect characterization (STEAL: what the character **s**ays, **t**hinks, his or her **e**ffect on other people, **a**ctions, and **l**ooks) to reveal the character.

Make a Connection

Make a connection between what you are reading and something else you have studied or read.

Spot the Setting

Don't just give details about the setting; speculate about **why** the author chose that particular setting, and **how** it contributes to plot or mood. Use text evidence to support your answer.

Find the Figurative Language

How does figurative language work in your book? Evaluate the effectiveness and purpose of at least two examples of figurative language that has jumped out at you.

Mark the Motivation

Evaluate the motive of a particular character or group. Explain the role the motivation plays in the book.

In addition to the international novel, it is our expectation that students read widely and often over the course of the summer.

The [Orange County](#) and [Winter Park](#) libraries are excellent and free community resources, with extensive collections that can be downloaded using their Overdrive system.