

CCS Summer Reading Assignment

Rising 10th Grade Students

Your assignment is to read one of the following novels and complete the essay prompt listed below.

Novels:

- *The House on Mango Street* – by Sandra Cisneros
- *A Separate Peace* – by John Knowles

Essay Prompts:

- *The House on Mango Street*: A vignette is a short descriptive piece of literary writing. Esperanza tells us about her name using a vignette (“In English, my name means hope...”). Write two separate vignettes (between 200 and 500 words EACH)- one about your own name and one about your own house. Be sure to include specific details about each one, as well as a combination of different lengths of sentences. Use literary devices such as personification and allusions when possible.
- *A Separate Peace*: How do changes in Finny and Gene's friendship parallel changes in Gene's level of self-understanding? Pick three ways in which this happens. Discuss the significance of Finny's death in terms of Gene's growth.

Keep in mind, your essay:

- must be at least 5 paragraphs in length (introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion). You may have more than 5 if you see fit.
- must include a thesis statement, which succinctly expresses your main argument. Your thesis should be based on the essay prompt and should include your 3 main points.
- must give at least 6 specific textual examples, which support your thesis – 2 minimum per body paragraph – along with page numbers in parentheses for citation
- should be free of grammatical and spelling errors. Upload your essay to grammarly.com prior to turning it in.
- must be in MLA format (typed, 12 point Times New Roman, double-spaced, with a proper heading)

Please note:

Your responses should be 100% your own. You may not reference the internet or any other source outside of your brain in answering the prompt. To do so would be plagiarism and will result in no extra credit.

This is an OPTIONAL assignment. Students may complete both reading and essay assignments for extra credit. Students who successfully complete the reading assignment(s) will receive one percentage point per assignment added to the final grade for the first quarter in Language Arts. The completed assignment and summer reading pledge are due to the Language Arts teacher on the first day of school.

**CROSSROADS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
SUMMER READING PLEDGE**

Name: _____ **Grade Entering:** _____

Title of Book: _____

Author: _____

- I have read this entire book.
- I have never read this book before this summer.
- No one has helped me in the preparation of the summer reading assignment.

Student Signature

Date

- My student has completed the CCS summer reading assignment.

Parent Signature

Date