



**The Academy Charter High School
2021 Summer Reading Assignment: English 9R**

(9th grade going to grade 10)

“Reading furnishes the mind only with materials for knowledge; it is thinking that makes what we read our.”—John Locke

Directions: Read both of the following books and complete the below assignment tasks for EACH book.

Book 1: *Black Boy* by Richard Wright

Book 2: *I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter* by Erika L. Sanchez

Assignment Task

Part I (Character Analysis, Theme, Plot)

1. List the major characters that propel the plot forward. Describe their key characteristics as well as examples of pivotal actions.
2. List and explain 3 specific themes that exist within the novel. Ask yourself what message you think the author is trying to teach about people or society.
3. List specific action/events that illustrate each theme.
4. What historical events or philosophies affect the character’s beliefs or actions?

Part II (Quotation and Dialectical Journal)

5. For each novel, identify ten (10) quotes that reflect one of the following issues in the novel:
 - a. The growth or change in the novel’s protagonist
 - b. One of the major themes you identified in the novel
 - c. The historical event surrounding the novel
6. Beside each quote, write a brief analysis of the quote describing why you believe the quote is effective. For example, a major theme in the novel *To Kill a Mockingbird* is the importance of protecting people who do not have the power to protect themselves. The following example illustrates the proper format for analyzing a quote in a dialectical journal:

<p>Miss Maudie, page 36—“Your father’s right...Mockingbirds don’t do one thing but make music for us to enjoy. They don’t eat up people’s corncribs, they don’t do one thing but sing their hearts out for us. That’s why it’s a sin to kill a mockingbird.”</p>	<p>This quote is significant because the mockingbird is a symbol of people in the novel like Tom Robinson. Atticus defends Robinson because like a mockingbird, he is innocent, harmless and cannot protect himself. Atticus wants his children to do the same, and so he wants them to shoot birds that cause havoc, not ones that bring joy.</p>
--	--

Part III (Essay)

7. Write a reflection essay for each novel.

Use all the information from tasks 1-6 to guide you as you write a 1-2 page personal reflection paper. Your reflection may include but is not limited to your personal feelings about the book, your real-life connections to the characters and events in the book, or a summary of the key points as they relate to theme. You may consider asking yourself the following questions and responding in your writing:

Is what you are currently reading challenging you in any way? How?

What specific questions are being raised by what you are reading?

Can you make any connections between what you are reading and everyday life, history, situations in the world, any other subject you are studying or your own life?

Pose three (3) questions you have for an author of a text you are reading. Explain why you have asked those questions.

What are you learning about yourself from what you are reading? (Your own values, attitudes and beliefs).

Your reflection should be typed, double-spaced, size 12 font, Times New Roman

Due Date: Monday September 13th

Important Note: If you have any questions about the assignment, please email Mrs. Dienzo at Rdienzo@academycharterschool.org or Ms. Darlene Reeves at Dreeves@academycharterschool.org and use “English Summer Reading” as the email subject title heading.