

English Summer Work 2018
Reading and Writing for Incoming Grade 8 Students

Dear Grade 8 students and families,

The Modern English School Secondary English Department wishes you all a relaxing and fun summer break. In an effort to provide you a summer reading assignment that is both interesting and enjoyable, we have chosen excellent books for you to read this summer. You have an option to read **one** of the following titles from 2 different authors:

***The Watsons Go to Birmingham* by Paul Curtis**
***Hoot* by Carl Hiassen**

These fantastic books are available for you to purchase at the following bookstores: Diwan, Alef, Omega in Heliopolis, or Omega in Heliopolis Sporting Club bookstores. If necessary, contact Essam Saad at 01222119233 for more information about availability at The Omega Bookstores. They are also available for you to purchase as an eBook on Amazon.com (eBook is 4.99 USD; paperback books is under 10 USD).

For the book you read this summer, you are to process it in a written Dialectical Journal that will be useful to you when you return in September. The Dialectical Journal Template with examples is attached here. You will turn in your Dialectical Journal on the very first day you return to school for your first homework grade. Your Dialectical Journal may be handwritten or typed. If you choose to type it, you **MUST** print it and turn in the hard copy on the first day of school. A digital file will not be accepted. Late work will not be accepted.

For the first few weeks of school, we will be working with this novel in class. You will be expected to do some of the following items using the content of the book in class:

- write an in-class essay
- create graphic organizers and webs
- compare and contrast the content (characters, themes, etc.)
- give a short speech/presentation about the book
- create a timeline of important events from the book.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Hawthorne

American Section English Head of Department, American Section at MES

****Summary of important information:**

- 1) Read your chosen books closely (TWO books need to be read for summer work).
- 2) Take thorough notes on the books; notes can take any form as long as they reflect your reading and understanding.
- 3) You will be turning in your notes the very first day you return to school in September for your first homework grade.
- 4) The first few weeks of school will be devoted to working with the book in a variety of ways for a variety of grades.

DIALECTICAL JOURNAL
Summer Work 2018
Grade 8

DIRECTIONS: For your chosen Summer Reading Novel, you must complete at least 3 entries like the one shown below. Be sure to include the exact quotation with page number from which it was drawn. Then, analyze the quote by including the following: opinion, context, analysis, and application.

Example (literature)	Paragraph Outline (opinion, context, analysis, and application)
<p>Example of paragraph:</p> <p><i>The story teaches that knowledge is a double edged sword, both good and bad. (opinion) Zeus is responding to Prometheus' challenge to him to give fire to mankind. Zeus states that denying fire and the problems it brings from man will keep him ignorant and happy. (context) He says, "Every gift brings a penalty" (Homer 58). This passage represents the age-old conflict between innocence /ignorance and experience/knowledge. The less one knows, the more innocent one can claim to be when things go wrong. Knowledge is powerful, but requires one to take responsibility for the effect of that knowledge. (analysis) The more knowledge we gain the more complicated our lives become. (application)</i></p>	<p>Opinion: what is your opinion about a character, a theme, or an event from the story?</p> <p>Context: who is speaking, where is this in the text (summarize what happens before it in the text)?</p> <p>Evidence: include a quote from the text that supports your opinion</p> <p>Analysis: what does this all mean or imply or suggest? Put this all together and draw a conclusion. Reflect on the message of the passage or text as a whole; consider the theme.</p> <p>Application: how can I connect or apply this passage and its meaning to other works or other knowledge?</p>

Paragraph (literature)	Paragraph Outline (opinion, context, analysis, and application)

Paragraph (literature)	Paragraph Outline (opinion, context, analysis, and application)

Paragraph (literature)	Paragraph Outline (opinion, context, analysis, and application)