

Create a chart similar to the one below. While you read your **nonfictional** book selection, complete the chart using the helpful hints provided within the sample below. Be sure to write in complete sentences and provide two **different** examples for each text connection. Each text connection (*6 total*) should be 4-5 sentences in length. Use details from the novel to explain each connection.

Text-to-Self Connections: How does a moment, character, or part of this book relate to your own life?	Text-to-Text Connections: How can you connect this book to another book you've read?	Text-to-World Connections: How does this book connect to something that happened or is happening in the real world?
<p>1. On page _____ (tell what happens in the novel) This is similar to... (tell what has happened in your life that is the same.)</p>	<p>1. On page _____ (tell what happens in the novel) This is similar to... (tell what happened in another story you read that is similar.)</p>	<p>1. On page _____ (tell what happens in the novel.) This is similar to... (explain something going on in the world, a current event, that relates to the detail you explained from the novel.)</p>
<p>2. On page _____ (tell what happens in the novel) This is similar to... (tell what has happened in your life that is the same.)</p>	<p>2. On page _____ (tell what happens in the novel) This is similar to... (tell what happened in another story you read that is similar.)</p>	<p>3. On page _____ (tell what happens in the novel.) This is similar to... (explain something going on in the world, a current event, that relates to the detail you explained from the novel.)</p>

Choose **one** of the following projects to complete after reading your **fictional** novel selection. Be sure to read the directions carefully and complete all requirements. (*On the following page you will find templates to assist you in completing each project.*)

1. **GRADE YOUR CHARACTER:** Evaluate your character's skills at self-reflection, risk-taking, and communicating. Assign them a letter grade (A, B, C, D, or F) for each of those categories. Use specific details from the text to support your decision. Be sure to respond in paragraph form. Each explanation should be between 3-4 sentences. If you would like to add any additional categories you may do so.
2. **DESIGN A COMIC STRIP EXPLAINING AN IMPORTANT EVENT IN THE PLOT:** Design a five box comic strip that portrays an event that happened in the plot. Write one paragraph explaining why you chose this event and what makes it important. You may use an online comic strip creator or blank paper. Be sure to color your comic strip.
3. **CREATE A DOUBLE-ENTRY JOURNAL OF THE BOOK:** Write text-based quotes on one side of the journal, and write reflections and questions on the other side. You should have at least 10 entries.
4. **CORRESPOND WITH ANOTHER CHARACTER:** Pretend that you are one of the characters in the book. Write a letter to another character to express your appreciation, respect or disappointment in your fellow character. Reference specific things the character did or said. This must be two paragraphs; 4-6 sentences per paragraph.

Below are examples of templates on how you should set-up your response. Please do not use the templates below to fill in your work; re-create your own template:

Please use computer or construction paper to complete your chosen project. Projects must be done in pen or with colored pencils/crayons; depending on the project you have selected to complete.

1. Grade your character:

Category	Letter Grade (A-F)	Explanation (3-4 sentences)
Self-reflection		
Risk-taking		
Communicating		

2. Design a comic strip:

Five boxes	will include	dialogue and	illustrations.	Explanations on the back. (3-4 sentences)
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3. Double-entry journal. **10 total entries**

The text says "Put what the text says directly in quotes" (Author's name page number)	Put the quote in your own words and explain what it means to you.

4. This can be done in a letter format. The letter is written from the chosen character's perspective to another character in the story. The letter will show the chosen character's feelings about the character he/she is writing the letter to. (Two paragraphs; 4-6 sentences per paragraph)

Incoming 7th Grade: (Choose ONE book from list below)
FICTION

Tangerine (copies available)-

Edward Bloor

Though legally blind, Paul Fisher can see what others cannot. He can see that his parents' constant praise of his brother, Erik, the football star, is to cover up something that is terribly wrong. But no one listens to Paul--until his family moves to Tangerine. In this Florida town, weird is normal: Lightning strikes at the same time every day, a sinkhole swallows a local school, and Paul the geek finds himself adopted into the toughest group around--the soccer team at his middle school. Maybe this new start in Tangerine will help Paul finally see the truth about his past--and will give him the courage to face up to his terrifying older brother.

Chains –

Anderson, Laurie Halse

ALA Notable Children's Books 2009

Parents' Choice Gold Award 2008

After being sold to a cruel couple in New York City, a slave named Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War.

Wintergirls –

Anderson, Laurie Halse

Eighteen-year-old Lia comes to terms with her best friend's death from anorexia as she struggles with the same disorder.

Hope Was Here –

Bauer, Joan

ALA Notable Children's Books 2001

Newbery Honor 2001

When sixteen-year-old Hope and the aunt who has raised her move from Brooklyn to Mulhoney, Wisconsin, to work as waitress and cook in the Welcome Stairways diner, they become involved with the diner owner's political campaign to oust the town's corrupt mayor.

Ender's Game [first book of a popular series] –

Card, Orson

ALA Notable Children's Books 1995

Young Ender Wiggin may prove to be the military genius Earth needs to fight a desperate battle against a deadly alien race that will determine the future of the human race.

Artemis Fowl [first of a popular 7 book series] –

Colfer, Eoin

When a twelve-year-old evil genius tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll.

I Thought My Soul Would Rise and Fly: The Diary of Patsy, a Freed Girl –

Hansen, Joyce

Twelve-year-old Patsy keeps a diary of the ripe but confusing time following the end of the Civil War and the granting of freedom to former slaves.

The Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon. –

King, Stephen

Nine-year-old Trisha McFarland, lost in the woods after she wanders off to escape the bickering between her mom and her brother, boosts her courage by imagining that her hero, Boston Red Sox relief pitcher Tom Gordon, is with her, helping her survive an unknown enemy.

Savvy –

Law, Ingrid

ALA Notable Children's Books 2009

Newbery Honor 2009

Recounts the adventures of Mibs Beaumont, whose thirteenth birthday has revealed her "savvy"--a magical power unique to each member of her family--just as her father is injured in a terrible accident.

Airborn –

Oppel Kenneth

Matt, a young cabin boy aboard an airship, and Kate, a wealthy young girl traveling with her chaperone, team up to search for the existence of mysterious winged creatures reportedly living hundreds of feet above the Earth's surface.

The Schwa was Here –

Shusterman, Neal

A Brooklyn eighth-grader nicknamed Antsy befriends the Schwa, an "invisible-ish" boy who is tired of blending into his surroundings and going unnoticed by nearly everyone.

Elsewhere –

Zevin, Gabrielle

After fifteen-year-old Liz Hall is hit by a taxi and killed, she finds herself in a place that is both like and unlike Earth, where she must adjust to her new status and figure out how to "live."

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas –

Boyne, John

Bored and lonely after his family moves from Berlin to a place called "Out-With" in 1942, Bruno, the son of a Nazi officer, befriends a boy in striped pajamas who lives behind a wire fence.

Graceling [first book of a popular trilogy] –

Cashore, Kristin

In a world where some people are born with extreme and often-feared skills called Graces, Katsa struggles for redemption from her own horrifying Grace of killing and teams up with another young fighter to save their land from a corrupt king.

Incoming 7th Grade: (Choose ONE book from list below)

NON-FICTION

Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice –

Hoose, Phillip

Presents an account of fifteen-year-old Claudette Colvin, an African-American girl who refused to give up her seat to a white woman on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama, nine months before Rosa Parks, and covers her role in a crucial civil rights case.

Flesh & Blood So Cheap: The Triangle Fire and its Legacy. –

Marrin, Albert

Provides a detailed account of the disastrous Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire in New York City, which claimed the lives of 146 garment workers in 1911, and examines the impact of this event on the nation's working conditions and labor laws.

Candy Bomber–

Tunnell, Michael

After World War II the United States and Britain airlifted food and supplies into Russian-blockaded West Berlin. US Air Force Lieutenant Gail S. Halvorsen knew the children of the city were suffering. To lift their spirits, he began dropping chocolate and gum by parachute.

Ideas that Changed the World

Ferris, Julie

An in-depth reference guide to technological developments that changed the world describes each invention and explores its place in history and how it influenced civilization, discussing inventions from the wheel to computers.

Surviving the Angel of Death: The True Story of a Mengele Twin in Auschwitz-

Kor, Eva

Eva Mozes Kor was just ten years old when she arrived in Auschwitz. While her parents and two older sisters were taken to the gas chambers, she and her twin, Miriam, were herded into the care of the man known as the Angel of Death, Dr. Josef Mengele. Subjected to sadistic medical experiments, she was forced to fight daily for her and her twin's survival. In this incredible true story written for young adults, readers learn of a child's endurance and survival in the face of truly extraordinary evil.