

[5th grade SUMMER READING]: Deadlines, Comprehension Questions, and Pertinent Information

[Book 1]: Watson's Go to Birmingham by Christopher Paul Curtis

- **Deadline:** Friday, August 14th

(Comprehension Questions): These assignments are **REQUIRED** and part of your student's overall grade. They will take an **assessment** for each book on the date listed above. There will be no extensions provided. These questions are not necessarily designed to cover the entire novel but are meant to be a guide. Your responses will help with the assessment.

- The question must be restated in the answer to qualify as **complete**.
 - **Example #1:** What caused Bryon's mouth to get stuck to the mirror?
 - Answer: _____ caused Byron's mouth to get stuck to the mirror.
 - **Example #2:** How did the teacher introduce Kenny to his class?
 - Answer: The teacher introduced Kenny to his class by ...
- Responses should be **at least** 2-3 sentences in length.
- Responses should be **typed**.

1. What caused Bryon's mouth to get stuck to the mirror?
2. How did the teacher introduce Kenny to his class? How did this reflect the time period in which this book takes place?
3. Why did Bryon tell Kenny & Joey the garbage can story?
4. What did momma plan to do after she caught Bryon playing with matches?
5. What did Bryon do to his hair? Why do you think that he did this?
6. What did Mr. Watson purchase for the Brown bomber?
7. Why are the Watson's sending Bryon to Grandma Sand's house? Where does Grandma Sands live?
8. Why did Mrs. Watson plan the trip so carefully?
9. What was Mr. Watson's secret plan for the trip?
10. Why did Grandma Sands say that she might keep Kenny too?
11. How does Bryon's behavior different in Birmingham in comparison to Flint?
12. What did Grandma Sands tell the children about Collier's Landing?
13. Describe what happened at Collier's Landing. What mistake did Kenny make?
14. Describe what happened at the church.
15. Why was Joey not at the church?
16. Compare/contrast the Northern/Southern states during this time period.
17. How did the bombing affect Bryon?

[Book 2]: Choose one of two books---War Horse OR The Hatcher

Option 1: War Horse by Michael Morpurgo

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1. Why do you think that the story was written from the horse's point of view?
2. What war was taking place? What were the two different sides?
3. What is "No Man's land?"
4. Why does Albert's father treat Joey so badly?
5. Why was it so easy for people to talk to Joey? Why was he so comforting to people?
6. Why did the armies stop using cavalry charges?
7. Why can't Albert join the army at this time?
8. Why was Albert allowed to keep Joey?
9. What was Trooper Warren and Captain Stewart's promise?
10. Why did Albert name the horse, Joey?

Option 2: The Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

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1. Where is Brian going?
2. Why is Brian not speaking to his mom?
3. What did Brian's mom give him on the drive up to meet the airplane?
4. What happened to the pilot as they were flying to their destination?
5. What were Brian's two choices as he flew in the airplane not knowing what to do?
6. What did Brian have to do to make sure that he was able to get out of the airplane alive?
7. How does the forest compare to the life that he was used to in the city?
8. Why did Brian know that the search team wouldn't find him immediately?
9. How did Brian feel when he saw his reflection in the water? Why?
10. How did Brian create a fire?
11. What are some things that happened to Brian out in the woods? Make a list.
12. How has Brian changed physically and mentally since the crash?
13. Why was Brian anxious to get the survival kit from the plane?
14. How was Brian able to get into the plane?
15. What did Brian drop in the water?
16. What led to Brian's eventual rescue?

[Book 3]: Biography

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{Newspaper Template}: Completing the newspaper is **REQUIRED** and part of your student's overall grade. The newspaper template will be due on the date listed above. There will be no extensions provided.

- It should be at least 96 pages.
- It should be someone from American history or a scientist (**NOT** someone from pop culture).
- Your child should take notes about this person as he/she reads the novel. It would be beneficial to include things such as his/her accomplishments, what he/she is known for, and demographic information (where he/she is from, when he/she was born, when he/she died, siblings, etc.)
- Newspaper template should be filled out **COMPLETELY**. If part of the assignment is missing, it will be considered incomplete.
- Template is provided in the packet and is available on the Literacy teachers' web pages.