



Summer Reading

Reading over the summer is important. It helps students retain and enhance their reading abilities. In addition, when students read as a leisure activity it promotes reading comprehension, vocabulary and reading speed. Keeping these ideas in mind, junior high students (grades 7-9) are required to read at least **ONE** book over the summer and high school students (grades 10-12) are required to read **TWO** books. These books may be chosen from the list below. We encourage students to read as many books as they possibly can. There will not be a written assignment tied to their reading but a project for only one book; therefore, students should feel unencumbered to tackle more than the minimum reading requirement.

Junior High (grades 7-9)

Choose **ONE** of the following books and complete the project for your grade.

1. *New Kid*, written and illustrated by Jerry Craft
2. *The Girl Who Drank the Moon* by Kelly Barnhill
3. *When You Reach Me* by Rebecca Stead
4. *Cinder* by Marissa Meyer
5. *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by J.K. Rowling
6. *The True Meaning of Smek Day* by Adam Rex
7. *The Selection* by Kiera Kass
8. *Game Changer* by Tommy Greenwald
9. *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* by Jules Verne
10. *I Am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai
11. *Revolution* by Deborah Wiles
12. *Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson
13. *Uglies* by Scott Westerfield
14. *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott
15. *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

High School (grades 10-12)

Choose **TWO** of the following books and complete the project for your grade for **ONE** of the books you read.

1. *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines
2. *The Wicked Deep* by Ernea Shaw
3. *Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline
4. *Skellig* by David Almond
5. *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas
6. *We Were Liars* by E. Lockhart
7. *Where She Fell* by Kaitlin Ward
8. *When* by Victoria Laurie
9. *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines
10. *Salt to the Sea* by Ruta Sepetys
11. *The Cruel Prince* by Holly Black
12. *The Scent Keeper* by Erica Bauermeister
13. *Friday Night Lights* by Buzz Bissinger
14. *Tumbling* by Caela Carter
15. *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen
16. *Beloved* by Toni Morrison
17. *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* by Jules Verne
18. *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott
19. *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate
20. *Into the Wild* by Jon Krauker
21. *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte

Summer Reading Projects

Each student will read the required amount of books from their list and complete one reading project to be turned in on the first Monday of school.

7th grade: Character head

8th grade: Playlist

9th grade: Tiny House

10th grade: Novel cube

11th grade: Social Media Profile

12th grade: Character graduation cap

Junior high project information is attached on a separate sheet.

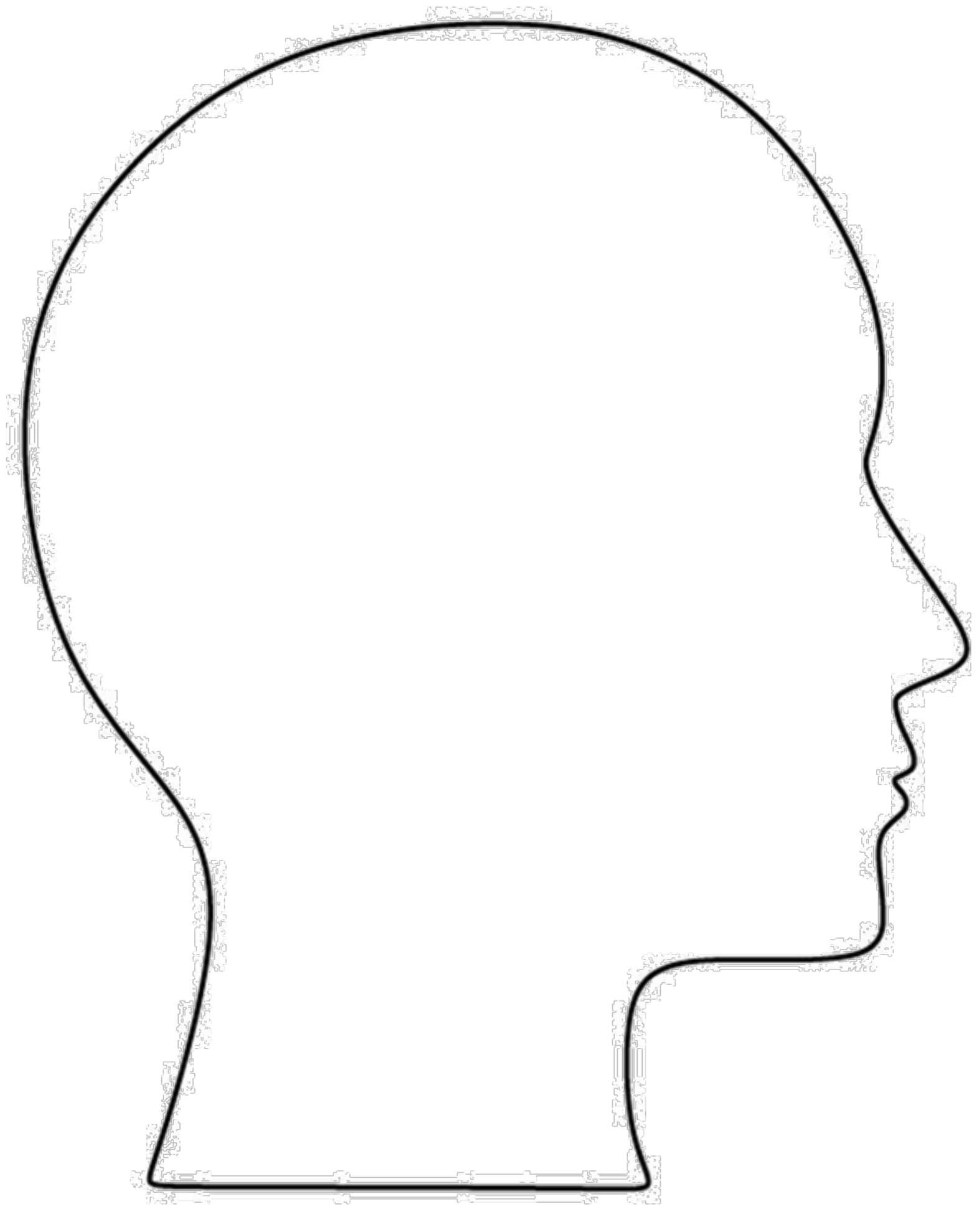
High School students will complete their assignments with a 500-word explanation of their project written in MLA format. They only need to do this for one of the books they read but be prepared to discuss both of their summer reading books during the first few weeks of school.

7th grade-Character Head

Assignment: It's time to get inside your character's head! You are to choose two characters and create a "head space" for each one. You are to print out the head outline TWICE and do ONE per character for TWO heads total. This will be submitted the first Monday of school.

Each head should include:

- __ Character's name in large font
- __ One significant character quote
- __ Two images relevant to the character (concrete or abstract)
- __ 3 adjectives to describe the character
- __ The character's nickname in the story or one you create
- __ Briefly describe a turn point event involving the character
- __ Identify the character as either dynamic or static with an explanation of why
- __ The title, author, and genre
- __ Use an attractive color scheme with virtually no white space
- __ All text is legible, dark, and attractive. Final text is not in pencil
- __ Head is securely glued to reinforced backing (cardstock) and neatly trimmed
- __ Error free in grammar, mechanics, and spelling
- __ High quality of work with no creases and crumples
- __ Quality of work reflects knowledge and understanding of the character



Mrs. Warren's 8th grade Summer Reading Project

Assignment: For every good action story there is an even better playlist. For your summer reading project you're going to create a playlist for 3 characters in the story. One playlist should be explained in paragraph format with at least 3 songs and 3 explanations. The other 2 may be listed on the MP3 player included. Any songs chosen must be free of explicit lyrics.

Due: The first Monday of school.

Poe's Playlist



Example:

Edgar Allan Poe's playlist would include the songs, "3 am" by Eminem and "All by Myself" by Celine Dion because in the poem "The Raven," he expresses the powerful feeling of loneliness and how this loneliness can lead to madness. Eminem sings, "There is no escaping/There is no place to hide" (1-2). Likewise, by Poe using the repetition of "nevermore" throughout his poem, he also creates a sense of never being able to escape the message that the raven is sending. This message is that Poe's brain will forevermore be haunted by the loss of his Lenore. To add to his isolated-themed playlist, Poe would include the song, "All by Myself" by Celine Dion. Dion sings, "All by myself/Don't want to live" (43,44). These lyrics reinforce his desire to know if he will ever be reunited with Lenore. He demands, "Tell...if...[I] shall clasp a sainted maiden who the angels name Lenore" (Poe 87-89). When the raven replies, "Nevermore," the persona is so distraught that he soon faints because he can't imagine living his life while being haunted by Lenore's memory. Poe's playlist would be a mixture of heavy metal and melancholy beats to help him to reflect on his loneliness and find others like him who share his darkness of mind.

What would

have on
his or her
playlist?

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Genre:

Song:

Key Lyrics:

Explanation:

9th grade Gen and 9th grade Honors Summer Reading

Tiny House has become a trend all over the world as people give up having extravagant homes for smaller spaces. For your summer reading project you are going to create a tiny house for a character!

This will be a digital assignment. The biggest trick to this will be when you click the link to open the assignment you must **MAKE YOUR OWN COPY** and rename it with your name. If you don't do this, you are working from the master copy, which means no one else can create a new copy. If you have any questions when working, email me.

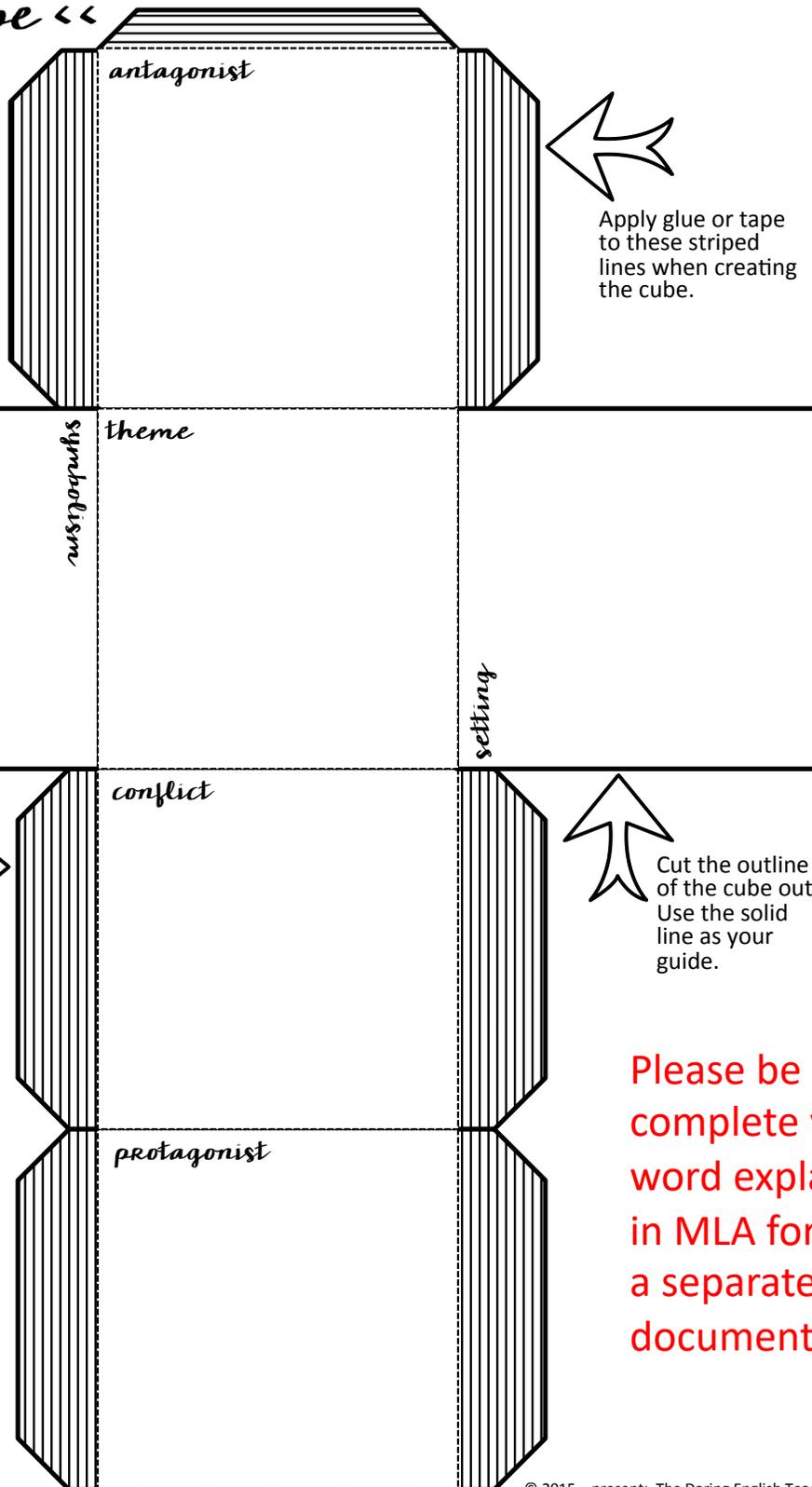
[Warren's Summer Reading Assignment](#)

SOPHOMORE SUMMER READING PROJECT

>> Story Cube <<

Directions: Draw a picture or symbol that accurately represents the theme of each box.

To assemble the cube, cut out the shape along the thick, solid line. Fold the paper where there is a dotted line, and apply either glue or tape to the striped pieces.

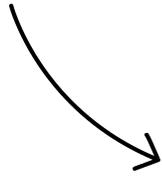


Draw and label a colorful visual representation for each cube's theme.

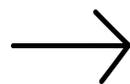
Please be sure to complete your 500 word explanation in MLA format on a separate document.

JUNIOR SUMMER READING PROJECT

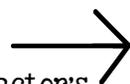
Draw a profile picture for the character that accurately depicts what he/she looks like.



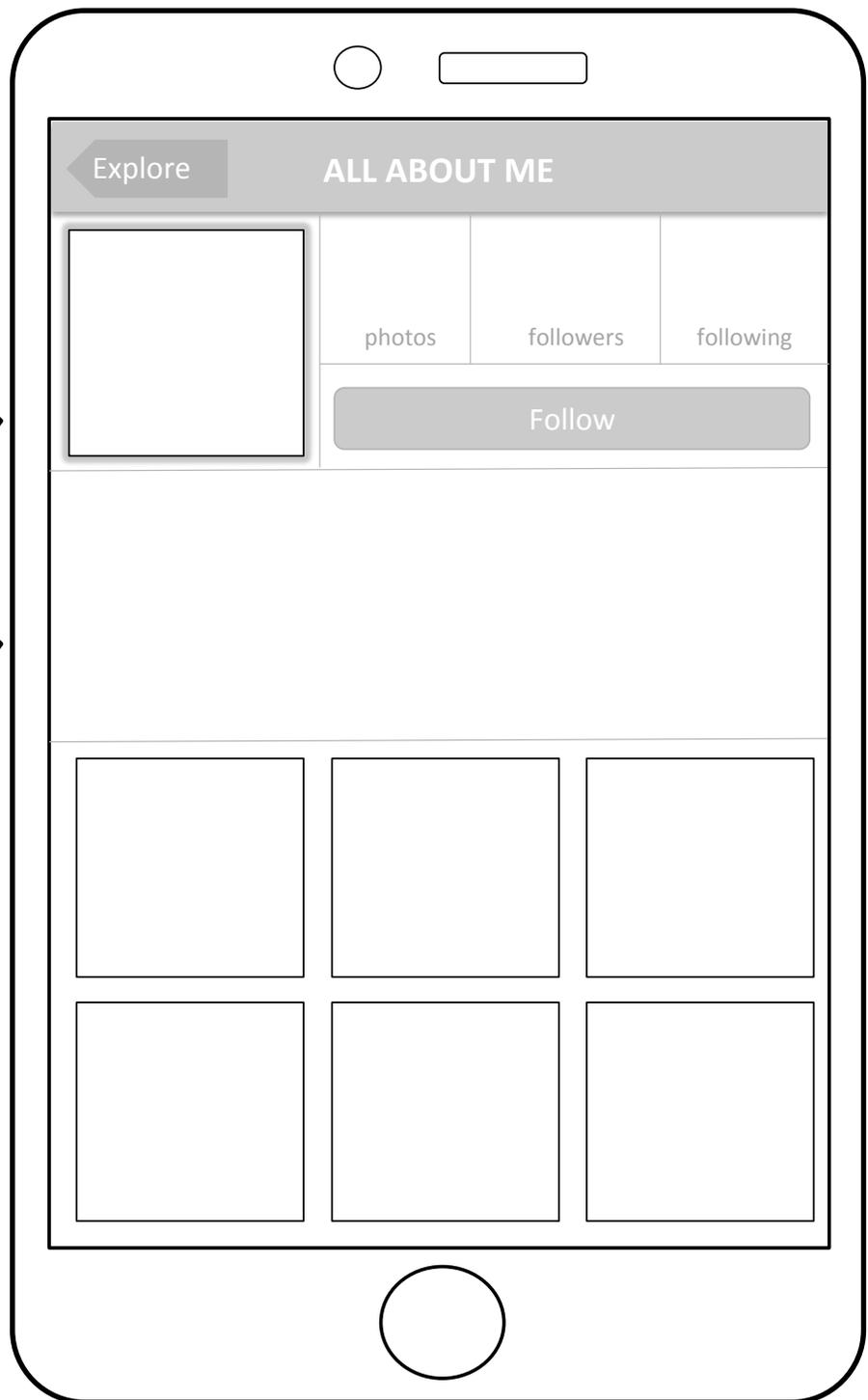
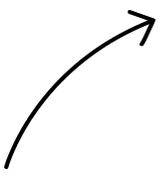
Decorate the phone case to match the character's personality.



Write your character's name at the top of this section and then write a brief bio. The bio must include accurate information about the character. You may draw emojis, but at least 3/4 of the bio must be written.



Draw six different photos or images that show important events from the plot.

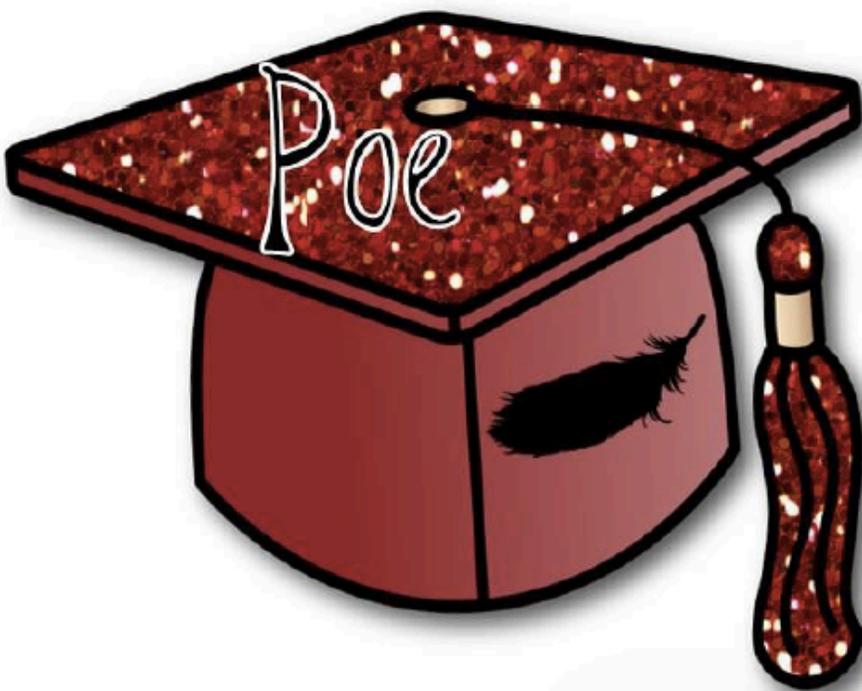


You will create a social media profile for one character from the two books you've read this summer and then write a 500-word explanation of your cap in MLA format. Consider the character's personality, goals, dreams, and relationships. You can do this on paper or [digitally](#).

SENIOR SUMMER READING PROJECT

GRADUATION CAP

The graduation cap of:
Edgar Allan Poe



Edgar Allan Poe would design his graduation cap red and black because he is a dark romantic. The color red is often associated with love and danger; the color black represents mystery. In the poem "The Raven," the persona implores, "Tell this soul with sorrow laden if, within [heaven]/It shall clasp a sainted maiden whom the angels name Lenore—" (Poe 93-94). These lines reflect the love he has for his lost Lenore as well as the mystery of what has become of her in the afterlife. Edgar Allan Poe would also include a single black raven feather on his cap to symbolize loneliness. By the constant repetition of "nevermore," the raven is emphasizing that the speaker of the poem will be forever without his Lenore. Through the color choices and symbol used to design his cap, Poe embodies the essence of a dark romantic—raw emotion mixed with mystery.

Many seniors decorate their graduation caps to celebrate their overall high school experience, as well as to express themselves. You will create a graduation cap for one of the characters in one of the books you've read and then write a 500-word explanation of your cap in MLA format. You can make a cap on paper or [digitally](#).



If you have a question about the projects, need a book recommendation, or need assistance with the Google slides, please email our English chair, Mrs. Courtney Warren.

cwarren@cantonacademy.org

Please Note:

Students who transfer to Canton Academy **before July 10th** will be expected to participate in summer reading.

Students who transfer to Canton Academy **after July 10th** have the option to submit the summer reading project by September 1.