



Summer 2018

Dear Incoming 7th Grade Student,

We look forward to you being enrolled in the upcoming school year at Calvary Academy middle school. All students at Calvary Academy from grades 6 through grade 12 are responsible to complete **two book readings** during the summer. You will be writing a critical book review (CBR) of Among the Hidden during the first full week of Language Arts class. Instructions are attached.

Also this year, you may select one of the OPTIONS listed below these book names on how you will present evidence of reading one of these books:

GIRLS CHOICES:	BOYS CHOICES:
<u>The Witch of Blackbird Pond</u> by Elizabeth George Speare	<u>Maniac Magee</u> by Jerry Spinelli
or, Any book from "Dear America" series	or, Any book from the "My Name is America" series
	or, <u>Al Capone Does My Shirts</u> by Gennifer Cholden

Everyone, regardless of book choice, must **complete a "Somebody/Wanted/But/So" chart** attached (with instructions.) You may then select a project from the following options:

Option #1:

Critical Book Review (CBR): Instructions attached

OR

Option#2: Diary :

Create a diary - telling the story, **not** from the main character's perspective but from a minor character's point of view.

Example...for Witch of Blackbird Pond you may select Prudence, Hannah, Mercy, Nat, or any other character other than Kit.

Your diary entries must include all the elements of the story, exposition (characters, setting, conflict), rising action, climax, falling action, resolution. This project needs to read like a diary so include a good character description of yourself and the other characters of the story so we can better understand the plot from your character's point of view. You must have a minimum of 10 entries, approx. 7-10 sentences for each entry (single spaced, 11 font, Times New Roman.)

Your project must be turned in by the first Friday of school.

Have a blessed summer.

In His Service,
Stephanie Cruz

CRITICAL BOOK REVIEW (CBR)

A **Critical Book Review** is a discussion and evaluation of the content of a literary selection. The essay must be written in a **five-paragraph** essay format. The structure of the five-paragraph essay is as follows:

1. **Introduction:** The introductory paragraph should contain the book's title, author, and genre. Some important information about the author as it relates to the book must be provided. Include a very brief statement about the plot- just to create interest. The introduction must be at least 5-7 sentences.
2. **Body Paragraph 1:** Identify the setting (time and place) of the book and briefly summarize the plot. Paragraph must be 7-10 sentences.
3. **Body Paragraph 2:** Analyze the main character: Describe the main character and discuss two major internal conflicts that the main character faced and how they were resolved. Did he change in the process? Provide details from the text to support your analysis. Paragraph must 7-10 sentences.
4. **Body Paragraph 3:** What is the theme of the novel? What type of theme is it-Is it stated (directly written), implied (reader determines the theme through the story's context), global (exhibits truth to all people of all cultures)? Use at least 3 examples from the text to support your analysis. Paragraph must be 7-10 sentences.
5. **Conclusion:** Personal recommendation- would you recommend this book to other teens, why or why not? (use literary terms-plot development, characters, conflict, etc) What was your favorite part and why? Which character did you love the best and why? What did you learn from the book? What biblical application can be made? Paragraph must be 7-10 sentences.

Notes:

- Complete a **"Somebody/Wanted/But/So" chart** attached. Use this to help you develop your CBR.
- Length is **275-300 typed words, double-spaced**, using **12-point font** in **Times New Roman** or **Arial**.
- **Rules of formal writing** should be followed. First person point of view should only be used in the conclusion. Absolutely no second person.
- M.L.A. format must be followed.
 - **One-inch margins** on all sides.
 - Last name and page number **½ inch down in upper-right corner** (Smith 1)
 - Name, Teacher, Class, Date **one inch down in upper-left corner** (double-spaced)
 - Title required (**centered**, not underlined, bold or italics)
 - **Double-spaced** throughout
- Remember to include the **exact number of words** at the end of your paper.
- Include parenthetical citations and a Works Cited Page
- Include the appropriate following sentence at the end of your paper, along with your signature:
 - I have/have not completely read (book title) during this marking period.
 - I have/have not copied material from the Internet or from someone else to complete this paper.
 - Signed: _____
- If you do not finish the book or if you do not include these sentences with your signature at the end of your paper, you will receive a **15% grade deduction** in your paper.
- Good tool for explaining terms: www.literarydevices.net

Book Title

Somebody

Wanted

But

So

EXAMPLE from book Number the Stars

Somebody: identify the main character and give one character trait and include page number (ex. Annemarie Johansen, Brave, page 104-105)

Wanted: describe the character's goal (ex. Save best friend's life (Ellen Rosen) from Nazi relocation. Annemarie's family takes in Ellen until she is smuggled out of the country.)

But: describe a conflict that hinders the character (ex. The German soldiers are on the hunt for Jewish families. They even go to Annemarie's house to search for hidden Jewish people. The soldiers realize that Jewish families are escaping and begin to suspect the local fisherman.)

So: describe the resolution of the conflict (ex. Due to a turn of events, Annemarie takes a secret package which helps the fisherman smuggle Jewish people safely to Sweden. She narrowly escapes being caught. She discovers that what she did played a major part in saving Ellen's life and the Jewish people of Denmark.)

For all of the above, focus on the most significant information in the novel.