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## 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading Assignment

**Teacher: Ms. Devivo**

The novels chosen for your summer reading assignment will directly correlate with the first unit of the school year, which will be from our rigorous Collections Curriculum.

### **Required Texts:**

1. *Iqbal* by Francesco D'Adamo (Translated by Ann Leonori)
2. *Buried Onions* by Gary Soto

**Assignment: Write a four paragraph thematic essay answering the following prompt.**

What is ONE theme that is developed in both texts? In your introduction, state the theme of the novels you will be discussing. In your thesis statement, explain how the theme is developed in both texts. In your body paragraphs, cite textual evidence from both texts to support how the theme is present.

*Essay Format: (4 Paragraphs)*

1. *Introduction Paragraph*
2. *Body Paragraph One: State reasons and cite textual evidence from text 1*
3. *Body paragraph Two: State reasons and cite textual evidence from text 2*
4. *Conclusion Paragraph*

Essay Rubric	5	4	3	2	1	0
Theme	Shows a thorough understanding of the theme	Shows a good understanding of the theme or problem	Shows a satisfactory understanding of the theme	Shows limited understanding of the theme	Shows very limited understanding of the theme	Shows no understanding of the theme
Analysis	Shows an excellent ability to analyze, evaluate, compare and/or contrast issues and events	Shows an ability to analyze, evaluate, compare and/or contrast issues and events	Shows an ability to analyze or evaluate issues and events, but not in any depth	Develops a faulty analysis or evaluation of issues and events	Minimally develops a faulty analysis or evaluation of issues and events	Lacks an analysis or evaluation of the issues and events
Evidence	Richly supports the theme with relevant examples, and details	Includes relevant examples, and details, but may not support all aspects of the theme evenly	Includes some examples, and details	Includes few accurate or relevant examples, or details	Includes little accurate or relevant examples, or details	Includes no accurate or relevant examples, or details
Organization	Is a well-developed essay, consistently demonstrating a logical and clear plan of organization	Is a well-developed essay, demonstrating a logical and clear plan of organization	Is a satisfactorily developed essay, demonstrating a general plan of organization	Is a poorly organized essay, lacking focus	Demonstrates a major weakness in organization	Lacks focus; no organization
Introduction	Introduces the theme by establishing a framework that is beyond a simple restatement of the task; includes thesis	Introduces the theme by establishing a framework that is beyond a simple restatement of the task	Introduces the theme by repeating the task; includes explanation of theme	Introduces the theme by repeating the task	Introduction is minimal	Fails to introduce the theme
Conclusion	Concludes with a summation of the theme that includes vivid illustration of theme through examples	Concludes with a summation of the theme that includes illustration of theme through examples	Concludes with a summation of the theme that refers to examples with some connection	Concludes with a summation of the theme that refers to examples with minimal connection	Conclusion is a basic restatement of theme	Conclusion is nonexistent
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling	No errors in grammar, punctuation or spelling	Very few errors in grammar, punctuation or spelling that do not hinder comprehension	Few errors in grammar, punctuation or spelling that slightly hinder comprehension	Many errors in grammar, punctuation or spelling that hinder comprehension	Many errors in grammar, punctuation or spelling that fully hinder comprehension	Very poor grammar, punctuation or spelling that make comprehension impossible