



Incoming 8th Grade ELA Summer Reading Assignment

Novel Assignment

Focus Question: How do the events in the plot help support the theme?

Background: Every story has a theme – a life lesson or moral. Usually, readers can identify the theme to an overarching topic by analyzing the events in the plot. How does the plot help you to determine the big idea/moral of the story?

Task: You must read a book and use your graphic organizer to select a theme record evidence of how the theme is supported by the different events in the plot.

Steps to Success:

1. Scholars must read the novel, **All American Boys** by Jason Reynolds
2. Keep notes about the events in the plot and theme on graphic organizer
3. Use the Outline to help you draft and publish your essay on Google Doc (If you need to use a computer, the school will be opened on certain days allowing you access to a computer.)
4. Must include a Cover Page: Title that relates to the theme of your essay, First and Last name.
5. Return this outline.

Word Generation

Article: “Should The U.S. Have Stricter Gun Regulations?”

Question: Do guns ensure our safety, or do they create more danger?

Vocabulary: Write a compound or complex sentence using each of the words.

Graphic Organizer: Complete the entire organizer

Word Generation Essay: Be sure to **type** it, **Times New Romans, 12 font, and double space.**

Assignments are DUE **Wednesday, September 9th, 2018. Points will be deducted each days you submit the assign(s) late. Essays will not be accepted after Wednesday, September 11th.**

Scholar's Name _____

Scholar's Name _____

Checklist of your Outline

Introduction

____ Introduce the book you read

____ Introduce the theme of the book and author

____ Identify events in the plot that helped you to identify the theme

Body Paragraph 1 (Event #1)

____ Define the 1st event (topic sentence) in the plot that helped you to identify the theme

____ Explain why you think that event helped you to identify the theme

____ Use one text based detail to prove your claim

____ Explain how this detail supports the trait you have selected

____ Use a second text based detail to prove your claim

____ Explain how this detail supports the trait you have selected

Body Paragraph 2 (Event #2)

____ Define the 2nd event (topic sentence) in the plot that helped you to identify the theme

____ Explain why you think that event helped you to identify the theme

____ Use one text based detail to prove your claim

____ Explain how this detail supports the trait you have selected

____ Use a second text based detail to prove your claim

____ Explain how this detail supports the trait you have selected

Body Paragraph 3 (Event #3)

____ Define the 3rd event (topic sentence) in the plot that helped you to identify the theme

____ Explain why you think that event helped you to identify the theme

____ Use one text based detail to prove your claim

____ Explain how this detail supports the trait you have selected

____ Use a second text based detail to prove your claim





____ Explain how this detail supports the trait you have selected

Conclusion

____ Paraphrase your theme of the novel, and summarize the content of your essay

____ Your overall thoughts or reactions to the character/book **OR** What life lesson have you learned based on the theme?

Word Generation Week 3.20: Should the U.S. Have Stricter Gun Regulations?

Pre- Reading	Word	Meaning	Sentences (Context Clues)	Post- Reading
	<p>Scheme</p> 	<p>A plan, especially a sly or dishonest one.</p>		
	<p>Subsequently</p> 	<p>Afterward</p>		
	<p>Dominant</p> 	<p>Most important or powerful; most common</p>		
	<p>Import</p>	<p>To bring something into a country; an item brought into a country for sale</p>		
	<p>Commission</p> 	<p>To order or request something; a group of people given a task</p>		

This week's issue:

SHOULD THE U.S. HAVE STRICTER GUN REGULATIONS?

In December 2012, Adam Lanza shot his mother with her own gun, stole her other guns, and proceeded to Sandy Hook Elementary School. He shot through the locked doors with a semi-automatic rifle and **subsequently** fired 154 bullets in under five minutes, killing 26 people.

The guns Lanza's mother owned were purchased legally. Some people believe we should have gun control laws in our country that make it harder to obtain certain kinds of guns. However, opponents of gun control note that the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantees citizens the right to "bear arms," or carry weapons. They argue that the founding fathers wanted people to be able to use guns to defend themselves.

Those who favor gun control note that when the Second Amendment was passed, the typical gun was a revolver pistol (Figure A). It held six bullets. In comparison, Lanza's gun, which looked like Figure B, could shoot dozens of bullets. Gun control supporters argue that if high-capacity guns were illegal, **schemes** like Lanza's would have resulted in many fewer deaths. The **dominant** reasons people give for owning guns are personal safety, hunting, and sports activities. Semi-automatic guns are not meant for hunting or simple self-defense.

Most developed countries have stricter gun control laws than the U.S. They require safety courses, universal background checks, gun registrations, and waiting periods to buy a gun after requesting one. In contrast, these regulations are not in place in many U.S. states. The rate of gun-related deaths in the U.S. is about 5 times higher than in Canada, 12 times higher than in Australia, 41 times higher than in the United Kingdom, and 177 times higher than in Japan. According to a report **commissioned** by the FBI, 67.8% of U.S. homicides involved guns.

Opponents of gun control state that "guns don't kill people, people kill people." Gun control will only keep guns out of the hands of law-abiding citizens. Even if guns like Lanza's were illegal in the U.S., criminals could illegally **import** them. Without guns, innocent people would be defenseless against these criminals. After the Sandy Hook shooting, the president of the National Rifle Association stated, "The only way to stop a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun." He proposed arming teachers to combat school violence.

Figure A



Figure B



Do guns help ensure our safety, or do they create more danger? Should there be limits on gun ownership? What kind of gun would you need to protect yourself? Would you need a gun at all?

**Questions for Classroom Discussion:**

- Why do some people say the U.S. should have stricter gun regulations?
- What are some gun control laws that other countries have in place? Why do you think some U.S. states have similar laws and others don't?
- Why do some people believe that taking guns away from Americans will put them in danger?
- Do you think stricter gun control would have prevented Adam Lanza's attack on Sandy Hook Elementary School? Why or why not?



WSL/ELA

Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

Word Generation 3.20: Should the U.S. Have Stricter Gun Regulations?

Claim Paragraph

Sentence 1: Claim (Based on the article “Should The U.S. Have Stricter Gun Regulations?” **Do guns ensure our safety, or do they create more danger? (Restate & Answer)**

Sentence 2: Cite Evidence C#1

Sentence 3: Explain Evidence C#1 Word Gen Vocab Commission Import Dominant Scheme Subsequently

Literal: This quote supports the claim because

Inferential Reasoning: (Explain HOW the evidence is connected to the claim/counter-claim)
This shows that

Sentence 4: Cite Evidence C#2

Sentence 5: Explain Evidence C#2 Word Gen Vocab Commission Import Dominant
Scheme Subsequently

Literal: This quote supports the claim because

Inferential Reasoning: (Explain HOW the evidence is connected to the claim/counter-claim) This shows that

Sentence 6: Cite Evidence C#3

Sentence 7: Explain Evidence C#3 Word Gen Vocab Commission Import Dominant
Scheme Subsequently

Literal: This quote supports the claim because

Inferential Reasoning: (Explain HOW the evidence is connected to the claim/counter-claim)
This shows that

Sentence 8: Wrap Up

Counterclaim Paragraph

Sentence 1: Counterclaim (On the other hand, ...)

Sentence 2: Cite Evidence CC#1

Sentence 3: Explain Evidence CC#1 Word Gen Vocab Commission Import Dominant
Scheme Subsequently

Literal: This quote supports the claim because

Inferential Reasoning: (Explain HOW the evidence is connected to the claim/counter-claim)
This shows that

Sentence 4: Cite Evidence CC#2

Sentence 5: Explain Evidence CC#2 **Word Gen Vocab** Commission Import Dominant
Scheme Subsequently

Literal: This quote supports the claim because

Inferential Reasoning: (Explain HOW the evidence is connected to the claim/counter-claim)
This shows that

Sentence 6: Wrap Up

Put your essay together:

Lined writing area with 30 horizontal lines.

