

2017 Pre-AP Summer Reading Assignment: Clements High School

Required Reading: *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card

Please follow the instructions listed below. It is important to carefully read and follow all directions. Summer assignments will be collected during the first week of the school year. There will also be an assessment over the book. The assessment will include information that you will not be able to find online through a quick google search in the last few days of summer. © All typed work should be in 12pt font, Times New Roman, single-spaced, and a MLA-formatted header on the left (Google: Owl Purdue MLA as a reference).

Ender's Game is the story of a boy who is called upon to help save the Universe from the "buggers" that have already sought to destroy mankind once. Before you read, complete the questionnaire provided (you should ask your parents to help you!). You must include a picture of yourself at age 6! In addition, answer the following prompts while reading the book. Each response should be at least 500 words.

For each response: articulate a definitive position at the beginning of the writing and follow up in one to three paragraphs with your reasoning and specific support for your ideas. This support should come from the novel and your other reading or studies. Do not simply summarize sections of the book but discuss how a feature of that text supports your reasoning. This response is to assess your understanding and analysis of the text.

1. "Human beings are free except when humanity needs them... Individual human beings are all tools that the others use to help us all survive" (Card 35). Argue for or against this statement made by General Graff as it pertains to the rest of the novel. Include a specific example from either history or modern society to validate your opinion.
2. After finishing Chapter 14 of the novel, answer the following question: Were the Command School authorities justified in how they handled the final evaluation of Ender and his peers? Use evidence from various parts of the book to support your answer.

Annotations: The standard in ELA at Clements does not involve mandatory annotations. You will never be asked "to make your book bleed." {Let's be honest, it just means that you highlight a bunch of random stuff the night before the grade is due!} However, annotations are incredibly helpful to help prepare you for a class discussion and when studying before a quiz/test. Think of annotation as a conversation you have with yourself over parts of the book that appeal to you or that confuse you. It would be wise for you to include some annotations as you read over the summer. Mark text that highlights characters' development, change, or their relationships with others. Also, mark moments that seem as if the author is trying to convince his readers of an idea. If you prefer using sticky notes instead of actually writing in your book, go for it!

"I don't know how to annotate! I just highlight everything! What should I do to help me focus my reading for this book?" The optional study guide will help you focus on what to annotate and also make notes on the following:

- Allusions – Mentions of historical and literary events/characters. Allusions often help the reader have a deeper understanding of a situation in the novel, further develop a character and his/her motivation, and serve as foreshadowing for the book! You may not be familiar with the history, mythology, or religious reference. Good readers learn from what they read and look these up (as well as unfamiliar words).
- Indirect/Direct Characterization – How a character is described, what he/she thinks about, what he/she says to others and how all these moments develop an overall character.

Study Guide: The study guide found on the website is an optional tool for students to use as they read the novel. This will not be turned in for a grade, but it will be helpful for those who read the book early in the summer or struggle with reading comprehension!

Please note that all summer assignments are meant to be completed individually. While discussing the reading is encouraged, work is meant to be done on your own. All work will be submitted to turnitin.com once the school year begins. Please be sure that your work was not influenced by outside sources. Plagiarism of any sort will not be tolerated and work will receive an automatic 0 per campus policy.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Manuel or Mrs. McMennamy.

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WHEN I WAS SIX YEARS OLD...

MY FAVORITE COLOR WAS: _____

MY FAVORITE BOOK WAS: _____

MY FAVORITE THING TO EAT WAS: _____

MY FAVORITE TOY WAS: _____

WHEN I GREW UP I WANTED TO BE A : _____

PUT A PICTURE OF YOU AT SIX HERE!

