



Amity High School's Summer Reading program is an essential component of our District literacy plan. We hope this program will encourage our students to experience the joy of reading and allow them to demonstrate digital literacy at the same time. This year, we are introducing a new summer reading program, designed to allow students to respond to what they read as they complete their reading, instead of waiting for school to begin. Attached are the instructions and grading rubric for this new program.

All incoming ninth, tenth, and eleventh graders are required to read one book during the summer. (Students registered for Sophomore Honors English, the Junior AP Literature course, and Senior AP Language course will have a different assignment, available for download on the Summer Reading page.) A list of suggested books can be found by clicking on the *SUMMER READING* link found on the District website: <http://www.amityregion5.org> although students may choose to read *any* full-length book (fiction or non-fiction) as long as they have not read it previously in an English class. They will then be free to choose from one of three options to present what they have read. Students may use **Prezi**, **Empressr**, or **CollaborizeClassroom**, all available for free online.

To use Prezi: navigate to www.prezi.com in order to create a free account. Complete the assignment (attached). When you have completed your Prezi, fill out the online submission form and click "submit."

To use Empressr: navigate to <http://www.empressr.com/> in order to create a free account. Complete the assignment (attached). When you have completed your Empressr presentation, fill out the online submission form and click "submit."

To complete the blog assignment: visit <http://amitysummerreading.democrasoft.com> Instructions can be found under the *SUMMER READING BLOG INSTRUCTIONS* at the top of the page. Respond to each entry in the *COMMENTS* section. Students will have to register using their full names (first and last names) and a valid email account. When you have finished all three entries, fill out the online submission form and click "submit."

Grading Rubric

Exemplary: These projects are completed with exceptional care, originality, and attention to detail. Words and images are chosen thoughtfully and help to communicate clearly, correctly, and effectively.

Proficient: These projects have all basic components and are completed with care, detail, and development. Language is clear and accurate; information is correct and complete, contributing to the overall effectiveness of the project.

Developing: These projects have most of the basic components but are missing one or more of the basic expectations. These projects may not be completed with acceptable care, detail, or development. Errors in language use or gaps in information detract from the overall effectiveness of these projects.

Sincerely,

Julie Chevan, English Department Chair

ASSIGNMENT FOR SUMMER READING USING PREZI or EMPRESSR

If you want to use Prezi: go to www.prezi.com to create an account. When you have completed the summer reading assignment, fill out the online submission form (http://listserv.amityregion5.org/summer_reading/) and click “submit.” If you do not do this, you will not receive credit for completing the assignment.

If you want to use Empressr: go to <http://www.empressr.com/> to create an account. When you have completed the summer reading assignment, fill out the online submission form (http://listserv.amityregion5.org/summer_reading/) and click “submit.” If you do not do this, you will not receive credit for completing the assignment.

To receive credit for your reading, complete the following minimum requirements using Prezi or Empressr

1. Basic information from the book

- The complete name of the book and the name of the author (correct spelling)
- A picture of the book’s cover (try www.bn.com or www.amazon.com)
- “This presentation created by...(your name)”

2. Summary of the book

- This should be in a bulleted list of the main ideas. Include between ten and twenty bullets, with no more than one phrase or sentence for each bullet. This will be easier for your audience to read.

3. Graphics/Pictures/Videos/Skit

- A minimum of four pictures and/or video clips, all of which reflect an important theme (or themes) from the book. Include a title or caption for each.

4. Author information

- Include a brief biography of the author, including any other books he/she has written. Get creative. “Interview” the author in a skit or talk show and record it or, do a podcast interview with the author. DO NOT COPY AND PASTE. Use a bulleted list, or a hyperlink to their web site.
- A picture of the author, if you can find one.

5. Your recommendation

- Include your own critique/ recommendation (do NOT copy from another source). Explain what you thought of the book, why you thought that way about it, and who you think would enjoy this book. You can talk about such things as: the author’s writing style, character development, the descriptions, how you felt reading, how interesting the book was, how realistic it was, etc. THIS can be in paragraph form or a bulleted list.

6. Your favorite paragraph

- Copy your favorite paragraph/ selection from the book. (This can be read aloud and recorded into your presentation or it can be typed into your presentation for your audience to read.)
- An explanation of why this is your favorite paragraph. BE SPECIFIC.

*These are only the minimum requirements.
Feel free to be creative
in designing your presentation!*

NOTE: If any of your digital presentation is plagiarized, you will receive **no credit**.
If you are not sure what this means, email AmitySummerReading@gmail.com with your questions.

ASSIGNMENT FOR SUMMER READING USING THE BLOG

To start, visit <http://amitysummerreading.democrosoft.com>

Instructions can be found at the *Summer Reading Blog Instructions* at the top of the page. You should respond to each entry in the COMMENTS section. You will have to register using your full name (first and last names) with a valid email account. When you have completed the summer reading assignment, fill out the online submission form (http://listserv.amityregion5.org/summer_reading/) and click “submit.” If you do not do this, you will not receive credit for completing the assignment.

To earn credit for Summer Reading, you must complete a minimum of three blog entries. Each entry must be at least one hundred fifty words long and follow correct writing conventions.

Entry 1: After reading about the first third of the book, share the following information in a blog entry

- The title and author of the book
- Why you chose this particular book – Was the cover engaging? Did another student recommend it? Have you enjoyed other books by the same author? Was it about a subject you find interesting?
- Your first impressions of the story – Was the action engrossing from the start? Do you identify with the characters you have met so far? Do you understand the plot? Is the book fun to read or are you bored?
- A prediction about a future event in the story – Based on what you have read so far, what is one major event you think will occur?

Entry 2: After reading about half of the book, share the following information in a blog entry

- Catch up other bloggers on the events of your book.
- Summarize three major things that have happened in the book so far.
- What are the important facts and significant or interesting events in the story? Be sure to include setting, characters, and key points in plot.
- Symbols you see in the book. Do you notice any objects that act as symbols in the story? What are they and what might they symbolize?
- Theme(s) you see in the book? What are they? Explain what leads you to believe this.
- In this story, a character makes a decision. What was his or her choice? Give specific examples from the story. Explain why you think he or she makes the choice he or she does.

Entry 3: After you have finished reading your book, share the following information in a blog entry

- What observations can you make about the writer’s style? What literary techniques did you find interesting, engaging or otherwise noteworthy? Why?
- Did anything remind you of an event from another story, historic event, or one from your own life? If so, explain.
- Give your reaction to the book. How do you feel about the book now that you have finished it? Explain your response.
- Evaluate this book. What qualities did it have that made it effective or ineffective for you as a reader? Why?
- Recommend your book. Who might benefit most from reading this story? Who do you think would enjoy this book? Why? Explain.

NOTE: If any of your digital presentation is plagiarized, you will receive **no credit**. If you are not sure what this means, email AmitySummerReading@gmail.com with your questions.