

SUMMER ASSIGNMENT: 8TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS

After you finish reading *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* by William Kamkwamba and Brian Mealer, please write a paragraph explaining what you learned from the book. Here are three questions to ask yourself while reading that will help you write:

- What did I learn about me?
- How will this help me to be better?
- How did this make me feel?

You are not limited to just these three questions; they are meant to help you when writing what you learned from the book. You can also include any lessons, themes or messages you took from the book, and so forth.

Next, choose two books from the following list and complete the attached Summer Reading Scavenger Hunt for each novel:

- *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis
- *The Warden's Daughter* by Jerry Spinelli
- *Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* by Dusti Bowling
- *The War That Saved My Life* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

Please bring all three of your books and the assigned summer work on the first day of school. Your work will be collected and graded, and there will be activities we do the first few weeks of school relating to these novels.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email (ccooke@penryn.org).

Have a safe and wonderful summer!

Warm regards,

Miss Cooke
8th Grade Language Arts Teacher
The Pen Ryn School

Name: _____

SUMMER READING SCAVENGER HUNT

Interesting things are lurking underneath the depths of the sentences of your summer reading books. Now, it's time to find them!

While it's true that reading is for enjoyment, there are many benefits to paying a little closer attention to the literary devices, writing techniques, and other elements of storytelling. Noticing these moments as they happen in a book can help us become more critical readers AND more complex writers!

Your task is to choose at least 7 terms from the word bank, find them in your novel, and then explain your findings in the table.

Hints for success:

- If you don't know what one of these terms means, look it up!
- Can't find any of these in action? Talk to an adult or teacher before giving up.
- Do your best on this, and write decent short answer responses in the table. (This activity is one of my first impressions of you as a reader and writer!)

| Word Bank | | | |
|----------------|-----------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Theme | Symbolism | Dynamic Character | Static Character |
| Conflict | Motif | Allusion | Situational Irony |
| Dramatic Irony | Pun | Direct Characterization | Indirect Characterization |

| Term | Direct Quote and Page Number | Explain Why <i>You think this quote is an example of the term.</i> |
|------|------------------------------|---|
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Reflect: What Have you learned from this activity?

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