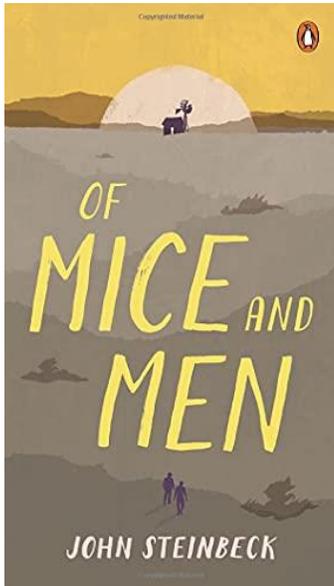


8th Grade – GPS Humanities Summer Reading Assignment



The Book: Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck
(Penguin publishers)
ISBN: 0140177396

Book 1 Language Arts Assignment - Due on Day 1

1. While reading the book, underline or highlight passages that relate to the idea of responsibility—for oneself and for others.
2. On loose paper, handwrite a paragraph reflection after reading each chapter, quoting at least 1 of the underlined passages (from #1 above) that relates to the idea of responsibility.
3. Ask questions and make connections in your reflections.

Book 2 Language Arts Assignment - Due on Day 1

1. Read another book of your choice on which you will write a book review.
2. Pre-write your book review by making a list of your book's pros and cons.
3. Prepare to give an oral review of your book when you return.

The Importance of Summer Reading

Think about it this way: what happens when you show up to a marathon without having trained for it? Imagine how hard that would be! How fast you'll run out of breath! How much extra effort you'll need to put in to catch up to your peers who've trained for it! Studies have shown time and again that students who don't read over the summer lose up to three months of progress in literacy skills, putting them at an academic disadvantage in the fall. In order to prepare for the amazing feats of literacy of the coming school year, you are tasked with summer reading assignments that will give your brain muscles exercises to keep them strong, sharp, and ready to take on the academic heavy lifting in all your classes in which literacy skills are vital to success.

“What happens if I don't finish?”

1. You will have a difficult time when the book is reviewed in class.
2. You will have to make up the work in the fall.
3. You will have a hard time composing your book review.
4. You will get less out of the lessons, which assume that the reading assignment has been done.

Questions?

Email your humanities teacher Mr. Zumstein at jjzumstein@gpsschool.org.