



Summer Reading Language Arts 7

Please note: Summer learning loss has been described as “devastating.” Researchers refer to this as the “summer slide.” It is estimated that school summer breaks cause the average student to lose up to one month of instruction. It is important that students are reading throughout the summer to maintain the hard work and gains that they make during the school year.

All incoming 7th grade students are required to read the following novel and complete the writing assignment.

ALL WORK is due the first day of school.

Class	Book Title
7th Grade Language Arts	Annotate: <i>The Magician's Nephew</i> by C.S. Lewis Writing Assignment: <i>The Magician's Nephew</i> by C.S. Lewis

Below are the links to purchase the books on Amazon for your convenience. You are not required to purchase from Amazon.

1. [The Magician's Nephew](#)

Language Arts 7 Annotating Assignment

The Magician's Nephew

You will need your own copy of this book, sticky notes, and a pencil.

Inside front cover:

- List major characters with descriptions
- Include page numbers for major events for each character

Inside back cover:

- Make a list of unfamiliar words that you do not know. Look up their definitions and write it next to the word.

1st page of each chapter:

- After reading the chapter, write a 2-3 sentence summary on a sticky note and place it on the page.

Pencil: use notes or circle words you do not know

Annotation Rubric Unless otherwise stated for a given assignment, here's the rubric we'll use for assessing text annotations:

Grade A: Front and Back cover have been completed with annotations. Summaries are comprehensive and focused. Student provides at least 15 + vocabulary words on the back cover with concise definitions.

Grade B: Evidence of annotation that will be helpful for quick review of major characters. Summaries are complete. The student thoughtfully interacts with the text and responds appropriately. Student provides 10-15 vocabulary words with concise definitions on the back cover.

Grade C: Character descriptions are vague with some characters missing. Several chapters do not have chapter summaries. Student provided less than 10 vocabulary words with or without definitions.

Grade D: Very little effort was put forth for on character lists, summaries or vocabulary words.

Grade F: Two or more of the following are missing: character list, chapter summaries, and/or vocabulary list with definitions.



Language Arts 7 Writing Assignment

The Magician's Nephew

Requirements:

1. Your essay should be double spaced using Times New Roman Font size 12.
2. Word requirement should be at least 350-500 words maximum.
3. This assignment is due the first day of class.

Prompt:

Digory is by far one of the most complex and developed characters in *The Magician's Nephew*, with a blend of good and bad motives. Explain the sides of his character more fully and state why he is considered to be more of a “good” character rather than an evil one.

How to structure your essay:

Introduction: Introduce Digory's character. Come up with a thesis statement about the story. What does his motives have to do with his character?

1st body paragraph: Describe some examples of Digory's actions that come from good motives. Use quotes or examples from the story to support your claims.

2nd body paragraph: Describe some examples of Digory's actions that come from bad motives. Use quotes or examples from the story to support your claims.

3rd body paragraph: Describe what action or actions Digory takes that make him stand out clearly as a character on the side of goodness.

Conclusion: Write an ending to your essay that ties your ideas all together. In what ways can you relate to the story?

Writing Rubric-

- Use this rubric to evaluate your writing by placing check marks by the items you accomplished in your writing.
- This is the rubric the teacher will use to evaluate your writing assignment.

An "A" Paper – Brilliant/Excellent

- ☐ Title is unexpectedly delightful and fully grabs reader's attention
- ☐ Opening intrigues the reader, making it impossible for the reader to put down the paper
- ☐ Organization of the paper contains all 5 required elements: introduction-3 body paragraphs- conclusion
- ☐ Powerful vocabulary with no repetition; always fresh and interesting
- ☐ Excellent sentence flow and variety of sentence structures
- ☐ Skillful use of transitions to help create a unified, cohesive piece of writing
- ☐ The ending is thoughtful, satisfying, and perhaps even delightfully surprising
- ☐ A lively, interesting writer's voice comes through to the audience

A "B" Paper – Good/Above Average

- ☐ Title is appropriate to the topic, but lacks great inspiration
- ☐ Opening interests the reader
- ☐ Organization of the paper contains at least 4 of the required elements (must include introduction & conclusion)
- ☐ Good vocabulary that clearly, but not always powerfully, tells the story
- ☐ Smooth sentence flow and occasionally effective sentence variety
- ☐ Correct use of transitions for unity and cohesiveness
- ☐ The ending answers all questions, but doesn't satisfy as deeply as the "A" level
- ☐ The writer's voice comes through to the audience, but the passion falls flat at times

A "C" Paper – Okay/Average

- ☐ Title is flat or predictable
- ☐ Opening is present, but flat or tired; the opening needs to do more to really pull in the reader
- ☐ Evidence of organization exists, but reader was confused and/or specific sections seemed rushed/underdeveloped; only 3 required elements are present; missing either introduction or conclusion
- ☐ Average, simple vocabulary or overly flowery language that blocks meaning at times
- ☐ Sentence flow is choppy at times; limited sentence variety
- ☐ Limited use of transitions; at times, an inappropriate transition is used or is missing altogether
- ☐ The ending is present, but delivers a typical and/or obvious resolution
- ☐ The writer's voice is flat, too formal, or rigid. Where's the passion in your voice?

A "D" Paper – Demonstrates Problems/Below Average

- ☐ Title is just a restatement of the title of the work being discussed or just a label
- ☐ Opening is abrupt or confusing
- ☐ Organization is confusing or illogical; your reader needed more help in following your narrative line; only 2 required elements are present; missing either the introduction, conclusion or both
- ☐ Flat, below grade-level vocabulary and/or inappropriate diction
- ☐ Flow is mostly choppy and erratic; little or no sentence variety
- ☐ Little or no use of transitions
- ☐ The ending is abrupt, not believable, or leaves too many unanswered questions
- ☐ No writer's voice is present. The words are lifeless or robotic.

A "F" Paper – Far Below Average

- ☐ Is incomplete, incoherent, undeveloped, or does not meet the requirements of the assignment