

Summer reading for incoming 7th grade students

June 2007

Is it June yet? I, like you, am looking forward to a relaxing summer. This is the season when I can catch up on books that I haven't had time to read during the busy school year. So, like me, you too will be reading by the pool, at the beach, during vacation or prior to bedtime. I would like everyone to read The Giver by Lois Lowry. One book is all that I ask, so I expect this assignment to be completed and submitted during the first week of school. This is one of my favorite books, and I know you will enjoy reading it as well. We will discuss The Giver during the first few weeks of class, so it is imperative that you finish the book before the start of school. The following is required:

- * The twenty assigned reading questions are neatly and thoroughly answered on loose leaf
- * Submit an original book cover with a brief synopsis about the book. A piece of 8 by 11 folded white paper will be fine. On one side will be the cover and inside or back will have the synopsis. Again, be original with the cover and don't forget the title and author. I am not grading you on your artwork per se, but on the effort and detail you put into the illustration. I prefer pencil, crayons and/or colored pencils; markers tend to appear messy. Make sure your synopsis is neatly written and it entices one to want to read the book.

The twenty essays will be your first grade for the trimester, as well as, the book cover and synopsis together. That's it! I want you to relax and enjoy your summer so that you will be rested and eager to begin an exciting school year.

Take care,

Mr. K. McKenica

The Giver by Lois Lowry

Answer the following questions neatly and thoroughly on loose-leaf. Remember: All questions and book covers with a synopsis are due the first week of school.

Chapters 1-5

1. Who is the main character in the story? Name the major characters introduced to you in this section.
2. What does being “released” from the community mean?
3. Why was Jonas so careful in his use of language?
4. List four or more rules that everyone in the community must follow.

Chapters 6-10

1. What is the significance of the “Ceremonies”?
2. What important object do Nines receive at their Ceremony? What does receiving this object mean?
3. How are the family units created in the community?
4. Name any occupations mentioned in Section 2 where math would be important in the community.
5. What story does Asher tell Jonas?

Chapters 11-15

1. What are some things Jonas begins to perceive and eventually begins to “see”?
2. From what are the people in the community being protected by not having to make choices?
3. The Giver explains to Jonas that he will gain something by being the holder of memories. What will Jonas gain?

Chapters 16-19

1. After the memory of war, The Giver is gentle with Jonas, giving him tidbits of happy memories. What are some of these memories?
2. What is The Giver’s favorite memory?
3. Who was Rosemary? Why did she ask the Chief Elder for release?

Chapters 20-23

1. What does Jonas learn about what happens to the Old?
2. Jonas and The Giver decide that things have to change, so they think of a plan. Explain their plan
3. What does Jonas want The Giver to keep for himself?
4. What are some of the new and good experiences Jonas and Gabe have on their journey?
5. What happens to Jonas and Gabe at the end of the story?