

# Ninth Grade Summer Reading 2018-2019

**Summer Reading Assignment: Showbie Reading and Writing – 9th grade Goal:** Through the Summer Reading Assignment, students at Eden will be actively involved in reading, thinking, and writing.

**Showbie:** Showbie is a private social platform for educators to use as a homework and class work site. We will be using this site throughout the year for communication and collaboration. Social networking is increasingly used by young adults, and we want to teach students to use this tool in a safe and secure environment.

**Requirements:** The ninth grade students will be reading two books this summer.

- The first book is a choice book (a book chosen personally by the student), which will be due on **Friday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, by 11:00 P.M.** For the chosen book, each student must read his or her novel (which has been approved by a parent) and respond to five of the six discussion questions posted on Showbie. If you do all six of the questions, you will receive bonus points. **Responses must be at least 200 words and are worth 20 points each.**
- The work for the second book *Lord of the Flies* is due on **Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, by 11:00 P.M.** There are five questions posted on Showbie, which must be answered for this book. **Responses must be at least 200 words and are worth 20 points each.**

**\*\*NOTE: THERE WILL BE A TEST ON THIS BOOK WITHIN THE FIRST FIVE DAYS OF CLASSES. IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO TAKE NOTES ON THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENTS OF EACH CHAPTER WHILE YOU ARE READING. BE VERY FAMILIAR WITH THE CHARACTERS, AS WELL.**

## **Grading rubric for all posts:**

***Critical Thinking (8 points)*** Responses demonstrate thoughtful, careful engagement with the prompt or post, discussing important ideas, characters, etc.

***Applications and Examples (8 points)*** Responses use examples from the book and from the student's own life, applying the reading to his/her own life.

***Writing Standards(4 points)*** The writing is clear, concise, and easy to understand. Rules of grammar and mechanics are followed. Minimum length requirement is met.

***Timely:*** Posts are submitted before midnight the due date. (-10% for each day late)

## **Total points:**

Book #1: 100 points

Book #2: 100 points

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**Signing Up: All 9th grade students must go to the website and sign up by June 2nd.**

1. Go to <https://my.showbie.com/signup>
2. Click the "I'm a student" button.
3. Enter the group code U85TE . For your username, you may use anything you will remember. Create a password, and enter your name.
4. Click "sign up."

**Preparing to Write:** 1) Actually read the book. 2) Take notes to help you remember what you read and what is important to you. 3) Write with depth and insight. Don't just summarize the work you read. 4) Answer all parts of the questions. 5) Use proper grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation because these will be graded. 6) Don't be late turning your work in. There will be a 10% penalty per day for late work. 7) Below you will find an example post and response for the book *To Kill A Mockingbird*.

**Posting:** On the home page, click on Grade 9 English, and all assignments for the summer should be listed. You should see five assignments posted for the *Choice Book* and five assignments posted for *Lord of the Flies*. ***To respond, tap an assignment.*** You will see the question posted. Tap the button that says "comment". You will type your response right in the comment box. Hit "save"; then exit the box, and move on to the next question/assignment listed. **NOTE:** Do NOT upload a document. All answers must be put into the comment box. You will lose 2 points per assignment which contains an uploaded document.

**Book Recommendations:** Having trouble deciding on the book you want to read? Go to Amazon.com for book summaries.

**Questions?** Email Mrs. Marcacci at [tmarcacci@edenca.org](mailto:tmarcacci@edenca.org)

Sample Post for *To Kill A Mockingbird*:

Discussion Question: Discuss Jem and Scout's behavior as siblings: how do they treat each other and relate to each other? Use at least one specific example from the book to show your point (give a page number). Also, connect their relationship to your own family relationships: how is it similar and/or different?

John Doe Post: Jem and Scout relate like most brothers and sisters. Because Jem is the oldest, he wants to be in charge and often tries to act more mature than he really is. For instance, on the first day of school, Jem instructs Scout not to bother him with any requests to play (page 16). He also boasts about not being afraid of the Radley Place. Scout sees through this, though, and often laughs at him for his arrogance. Despite their conflicts, the two are very close and do everything together. Scout believes Jem almost implicitly, accepting his description of Boo Radley even though he has never seen him. I can see myself in Jem; as the oldest, I want to be the leader of my siblings, and I want them to look up to me. It's easy to boast and tell stories when I'm trying to do this. However, because I'm a girl and I have girl siblings, I think we can relate more than Scout and Jem did; we easily share secrets and jokes.