

Summer Reading 8th Grade

Novel: *The Giver* Lois Lowry

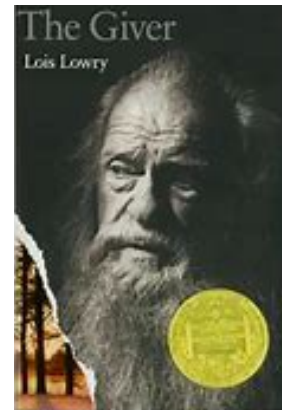
In order to be prepared for the fun adventures of English and to reinforce important concepts and analytical skills, you will be reading a story focused on a dystopia and a young adult's coming-of-age journey.

****Remember that your reading assignment should be completed and posted into your Google Classroom prior to the first day of school. This counts as the first test grade of the year. When you return to school you will have an in-class written assignment to further check your understanding of the novel.**

As you read the novel you will keep a journal that shows how you are interacting with the text. This journal should be posted into the GoogleDoc template that you will have in your Google Classroom. Assignment is due BEFORE the first day of school.

Instructions:

- For every **3 chapters** of reading, you will write a journal entry between **7-10 sentences**. You will choose a direct quote/passage from the text and write about its overall significance, deeper meaning, and/or how you relate to it. (Your passage does not count as part of your sentences)
- You should have a **total of 7** journal entries (You can lump the last chapter together, even though it is more than 3).
- Ideas for analyses you may choose to include:
 - Hidden meanings
 - Metaphors, allegory, similes, allusions, morals etc.
- Ideas for experiences you may choose to relate:
 - Memories
 - Other literary works
 - Real-life scenarios
 - Ethical/ social dilemmas
 - Historical context



**** Your entry should have:**

1. A date
2. A citation/passage that is part of a quote sandwich. Make sure you are introducing the quote AND explaining its significance.
3. An analytical response of 7 to 10 sentences
4. Writing should be in MLA format (Times New Roman, 12 pt font, double spaced).

Should you have questions please reach out: anamelnichenko@andersonchristian.net

Friendly word of advice- Don't wait until the last minute to start reading, and enjoy your summer!

***** HONOR PLEDGE: At the end of the journal, type the following honor pledge: I pledge that I your name read (not skimmed) all of *The Giver*. I pledge that I did not plagiarize (copy, use online source, or AI-generate) any part of my assignment.

Sample Journal Response:

First Last Name

Melnichenko

English 8th

Due Date

5th July, 2024

Sample Response:

As the novel progresses we see Jonas struggling to come to terms with all of the things that his society has done away with to ensure that sameness prevails. At one point he says to the Giver: “We really have to protect people from the wrong choices”. The irony of his words is that he doesn’t truly believe what he is saying. He understands that choices may lead to hurt, but he has also seen, through his memories, that choices are a form of freedom that his entire society has given up. It is also ironic, because taking away the freedom to choose was a wrong social choice and the consequences for their community are dire. They are no longer living, merely existing in the community, mere hamsters in a wheel. Jonas’ words make the reader begin to question what wrong choices the community is being protected from, versus what they are losing as a result of that control. This is also a shift in the book that seems to hint at an internal struggle in Jonas that wasn’t there before the ceremony of 12’s and before his training as a new Receiver of Memory.