**SSR+:  All You Ever Wanted To Know**

**WHY ARE WE DOING SUSTAINED SILENT READING (SSR)?**

Building Interest in Reading.  You can read books of your choice!

Building Stamina.  You will be able to read for longer and longer periods of time.

Practicing Metacognition.  You will learn about yourself as a reader.

Building Schema.  You will add to your background knowledge.

**WHAT HAPPENS DURING SSR+ TIME?**

Reading in Class.  SSR reading time starts as soon as bell work is over.  We will build up to reading for 10-15 minutes at a time.

Conferencing with Me.  I will meet with 3-4 people a day during SSR+ time.  We will discuss their book during that time. Be prepared to answer metacognitive questions about the book you are reading.

**ARE THERE OTHER SSR ASSIGNMENTS? (All assignments are explained on the back of this paper.)**

Dialectical Journal.  For every book you complete you will fill out a dialectical journal.  Minimum of 15 per CM. Any dialectical journal turned in above the required 15 will be counted as extra credit.  10 points each (formative)

Book Talks.  You are required to do a minimum of 2 book talks per card marking.  5 minutes of class time will be set aside for book talks after I have finished my book talk for the day.  Book talks should model what you see me doing during mine. 50 points/CM (summative)

Literary Letter.  At the end of each CM you will write a reflective letter about yourself as a reader.  I will give you a topic for each card marking. These will be done in class. 50 points/CM (summative)

Reading Rates.  These will be calculated at the beginning and end of each CM.  They will be used to monitor your reading, establish goals, and help me provide feedback during conferences.

**WHAT CAN I READ FOR SSR+?**

Choices.  You can read fiction or nonfiction, long books or short books, and books on almost any topic you can imagine.  You can start off by reading a book that is familiar to you or that you find very easy to read. As the year progresses, you should be choosing more difficult books (but still books you want to read!) to challenge yourself and grow as a reader.

Non Choices.  You may not choose newspapers or magazines, or textbooks from other classes.

Minimum Limit.  You are required to read **TWO** books per card marking.  You can, of course, read more than that.  The more books you read, the more final thoughts you can turn in, the more extra credit you can earn.

SSR+ at Home.  You are required to read for at least 20 minutes at home.  This is your homework every night.

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| *Dialectical Journals*  60 points each (formative) |
| 1. **SUMMARY AND DIALECTICAL JOURNAL LAYOUT** 2. Name of Novel 3. Entry (chapters…) 4. **Concise one paragraph summary**  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Meaningful Quote** |  | | The narrator said, “Quote from the reading” (page #). | **Questions** you have about the quote:  *List your questions* | |

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| *Book Talk*  50 points (summative) |
| 1. **Bring a copy of the book with you.** 2. **Tell us the title and author, setting, main character(s) and his/her traits, one external and one internal conflict, genre, etc.** 3. **Read a short passage to get us hooked.  Don’t give away the ending or any important plot points, just read enough to make us want to read the book ourselves.  You may not read the back cover or inside flap.** 4. **Practice what you are going to say BEFORE you come to class.  If it becomes apparent that you have not practiced, I will stop you and give you a chance on another day to complete your book talk.** |

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| *Literary Letters*  50 points (summative) |
| 1. **It must be written in letter form.** 2. **I will give you a specific topic to focus on for each card marking.** 3. **It should NOT contain:  a summary or a review of any particular book, although you may reference books that you have read in your letter.** |

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| *Reading Rate: You will calculate your reading rate at the beginning and end of each card marking and record the number on the reading rate chart I provide.*  10 points (formative) |
| **Reading Rate Formula (beginning of CM):**   1. **Read a text for ten minutes.** 2. **Record the number of pages read in those ten minutes.** 3. **Multiply that number by six (there are six blocks of ten minutes in one hour).** 4. **Triple that number (how far students should get after three hours of reading, which is the total number of minutes you should be reading per week at home and at school.).**   **Reading Rate Formula (end of CM):**   1. **Add up total number of pages read that CM.** 2. **Divide by total number of weeks in that CM.** |

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| *Quick Writes*  10 points each (formative)+ 50 points (summative) |
| 1. **Quick write topics will be assigned periodically throughout the semester.** 2. **There is no minimum length requirement.** 3. **You will decide which quick write to bring to draft for a summative grade.** |