



*Home of the New Braunfels Unicorns!*

## **NEW BRAUNFELS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

### **Ninth Grade Center**

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### **New Braunfels High School Ninth Grade Center**

### **Optional Summer Reading Assignment**

### **2019-2020**

Incoming ninth grade students have the opportunity to complete an optional summer reading assignment for a summative assessment (major grade). Students may choose a book from the following link (<http://time.com/100-best-young-adult-books/>) and prepare for an oral “Book Talk” with their English teacher.

Step 1: Choose one of the books to read.

Step 2: Prepare **one** notecard (4x6) with any notes you need to prepare for the oral book talk (**required**).

Step 3: Schedule your book talk before or after school through **Sept 6**.

Step 4: Teacher will randomly ask you questions from each section.

To receive credit, you must come in before or after school no later than **Friday, September 6**.

The “Book Talk” will require students to answer one question from each of the five categories below. The five questions will be randomly chosen, and the student will be required to answer completely, supporting their response with text evidence (a direct quote from the text). Students will use **one** 4x6 notecard to list key points to present.

#### **COMPREHENSION: 10 points**

1. What was the main conflict in the book and how was it resolved?
2. Did anyone in the book do something that you did not like? Explain why.
3. What was the author’s purpose or purposes in writing this book?
4. If you could continue the story, what events would you include? Why?
5. List and explain major parts of the story, following the plot diagram.
6. Explain the exposition in your own words.
7. How did the main character deal with the initial conflict in the story? Provide evidence of this.
8. Explain the connection of the title to the book.
9. Explain in your own words how the setting of the story made it more interesting and contributed to the plot.

#### **APPLICATION: 15 points**

1. Did the book remind you of anything that you have experienced? What? Why?
2. Did this book give you any new ideas about yourself? Explain.
3. What would the main character be likely to do if he or she visited your classroom?
4. If you were in a problem situation like the one in the book, how would you have handled it? Be sure to explain what the situation is.
5. What lesson did you learn from the story? Explain.
6. What changes would have to be made if the story occurred 200 years earlier? Explain.

7. In recommending this book to a friend, what high points would you include without giving too much information away?

**ANALYSIS: 20 points**

1. How does the language contribute to the overall purpose? Pull one literary device and explain its effect.
2. If the setting of the story was a long time ago (100 years or more), compare that time period with today and explain what would be different.
3. Describe the five W's (who, what, when, where why) and the H (how) and fully explain.
4. If you were to change the ending of the book, explain why you would do so, making specific connections to the text.
5. Explain five similarities between yourself and the main character.
6. Give one adjective that accurately describes a character in the book. Share five reasons for the word that you chose making specific connections to the text.
7. Compare and contrast two characters in the book making specific references to the text.

**SYNTHESIS: 25 points**

1. Explain what part of the story you would change and why.
2. What actors would you use for each character (name at least 3 characters) , if a movie was to be made about your book? Why?
3. Explain how you might organize this book into three or more sections and create your own subtitles for each section.
4. Give a recommendation for this book as if you were a librarian.
5. Explain how one situation could change the outcome of the story.
6. Explain what you think is the climax of the book and offer support for your answer.
7. Identify one conflict from the book and give an alternate solution. It may not be a solution given by the author.

**EVALUATION: 30 points**

1. Who do you think the intended audience is for this book? Fully explain.
2. If you could save only one character from the book in the event of a disaster, which one would it be and why?
3. Explain why you think the title is a good one or a poor one and explain making specific connections to the book.
4. Explain why you did or did not like the way the story ended.
5. Which character in the book would you choose for a friend? Explain why making specific connections to the text.
6. Explain, with close reference to the author's word choice, to what extent you find the last paragraph an appropriate conclusion to the book. Would you change anything? Why or why not?
7. Tell about the most exciting part of the book. Explain why, giving at least three reasons to support your answer.