



Summer Work - Incoming 7th Graders

*This is the summer assignment for the **incoming 7th graders**. The students need to complete the writing prompts, choose and memorize one of the poems along with the written response for the poem, read two of the novels, and complete math challenge questions & lessons reviews in preparation for the diagnostic assessment that takes place during the first week of school.*

Writing

Directions: Please get a **new** composition book (you will be further using this notebook during the school year) and answer at least **two** from **each** of the following writing styles: Expository, Descriptive, Narrative.

Please Note: If you have answered any of these prompts for a previous summer writing assignment, please choose different prompts.

Expository

1. Explain how disappointments can sometimes have a positive outcome.
2. Each child has a unique place in their family. Explain the advantages and disadvantages of the position you hold in your family (youngest child, an only child, middle child etc.).
3. A home in your neighborhood has burned. The family lost everything in the fire, but everyone came out safely. Inform your reader how you plan to help the family recover from the loss.
4. Explain why honesty is important in a friendship.
5. Compare and contrast your home in the day versus the night. Think not only about how it looks different, but also how it sounds different, as well as how your home serves a different purpose in the day than it does at night.

Descriptive

1. Describe your bedroom. Start with what is immediately to your left when you open the door and describe what you see as you go clockwise around your room.
2. While visiting the zoo you encounter an animal that no one has ever seen before. Describe the animal.
3. What is your favorite meal? Describe it in detail, including what it looks, smells, and tastes like.
4. Describe a tree in detail. Maybe it is your favorite tree, one you like to climb, or one that has a tire swing. Describe what it looks like, feels like, and even its smell.
5. Describe a thunderstorm to someone who has never experienced one. Give details about what you see, hear, and smell. Be sure to describe how you feel during the storm.

Narrative

1. Tell what happened when you felt proudest of yourself.
2. Imagine that you spent the entire day with your favorite relative (grandmother, grandfather, cousin, aunt, uncle, etc). Tell us about your day.
3. Imagine that you were invisible for a day. Write about your experience.



4. Retell a popular fairy tale from the villain's point of view.
5. When was the last time you showed great courage? Tell us about your experience.

Poetry

Directions: 1) Choose and memorize **one** of the following poems. You will be asked to recite this poem from memory at the beginning of school. 2) Write a one-paragraph reader's response about the poem you chose, in your composition notebook (the same notebook you used for your writing).

A GOOD PLAY by Robert Louis Stevenson

We built a ship upon the stairs
All made of the back-bedroom chairs,
And filled it full of sofa pillows
To go a-sailing on the billows.

We took a saw and several nails,
And water in the nursery pails;
And Tom said, "Let us also take
An apple and a slice of cake;"--
Which was enough for Tom and me
To go a-sailing on, till tea.

We sailed along for days and days
And had the very best of plays;
But Tom fell out and hurt his knee,
So there was no one left but me.

BED IN SUMMER by Robert Louis Stevenson

In winter I get up at night
And dress by yellow candle-light.
In summer, quite the other way,
I have to go to bed by day.

I have to go to bed and see



The birds still hopping on the tree,
Or hear the grown-up people's feet
Still going past me in the street.

And does it not seem hard to you,
When all the sky is clear and blue,
And I should like so much to play,
To have to go to bed by day?

STRAWBERRIES by Dora Goodale

When the fields are sweet with clover
And the woods are glad with song,
When the brooks are running over,
And the days are bright and long,
Then, from every nook and bower,
Peeps the dainty strawberry flower.

When the dear, enchanting Summer
Tosses beauties at our feet,
She delights each weary comer
With her berries, fresh and sweet;
Springtide's blossoms, stored away,
Ripen for us all to-day.

Reading

Directions: Choose **two** of the following books to read over the summer. You will be taking A.R. tests for these at the beginning of the year.

1. *Crispin*, Avi
2. *Blood Red Horse*, K.M. Grant
3. *Mary Bloody Mary*, Carolyn Meyer
4. *The Black Stallion*, Walter Farley
5. *Mara, Daughter of the Nile*, Eloise Jarvis McGraw

Math



Complete 7th-Grade Math Minutes: 2-50 (even Math Minutes only). You can print them out or write the problems on loose leaf papers, then show all your work to earn the summer credits. Answer keys are available at the end of the packet. You are welcome to do more than 25 Math Minutes.