BOYER: ELA 7th Grade 2018 Summer Reading:
ANNOTATE THE DIRECTIONS

Class Novel: Everyone will read *Inside Out and Back Again* by Thanhha Lai and complete the critical analysis packet regarding this novel.

Choice Novel: Choose ONE of the novels listed and write a one page reflection in regards to how the novel relates to your life. Think of it as a journal activity, but focus on the following questions:

- Do I connect to the setting? Why or why not?
- Do I connect to the protagonist? Why or why not?
- Do I connect to the antagonist/the conflict? Why or why not?
- Do I connect to a theme? (Name a specific theme.) Why or why not?
- Can I pick out specific literary devices that I like to see as a reader?
- Do I like the author’s tone? Why or why not?
- Do I like the author’s style? Why or why not?

*If you are an adamant reader, you may read more than one novel on the list! :)*

Choice Novel Options:
1. *Restart* by Gordon Korman
2. *Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* by Dusti Bowling
3. *The Way to Be a by Kat Yeh
4. *The Vanderbeakers of 141st Street* by Karina Yan Glaser
5. *As Brave As You* by Jason Reynolds
6. *The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora* by Pablo Cartaya
7. *The Exact Location of Home* by Kate Messner
8. *The Wednesday Wars* by Gary D. Schmidt
9. *Ms. Bixby’s Last Day* by John David Anderson **Mrs. Boyer’s favorite author…if you are looking for more books by him…. :)**
Inside Out and Back Again Critical Analysis Packet:

Directions: Please complete the following questions on a Google Doc. You will type the questions, and then answer each question in complete sentences. You will turn the printed document in ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. Do not come to class without your assignment printed or you will receive a late point deduction.

I will be grading based on critical thought, creative and independent thinking, variation of sentence structure, and minimal grammatical mistakes. Do NOT write PLOT SUMMARY; I am asking for critical analysis and INDEPENDENT thinking. I have already read this novel many times; I don't need to know what happens. I want to know what YOU THINK about the WHY and the HOW, the author's purpose, and the meaning behind the novel.

The document should be typed in MLA format (Times New Roman Font, 12 pt sizing, 1 inch margins, double spaced, page numbers at the top right corner, and a proper heading- full name, date, teacher, and class).

Part 1: Read each prompt carefully. Analyze the novel based upon question being asked, and be sure to provide specific examples from the text to aid your response. Each answer for Part 1 questions should be four to five sentences minimum.

1. **Choose ONE passage from the novel that you feel sums up the entire novel and discuss why you chose this passage. Please cite the passage and then write about it. The quotation does not count towards your sentence requirement.**
   a. Ex.
      i. Quotation: "asdjshdfjhsdj" (Lai, p 45).
      ii. Explanation

2. Throughout the novel, what is the significance of the papaya and the amethyst ring?

3. Should non-English speakers be required to enter a special, separate language learning program or should they take standard classes with students their age, learning English as they go?

Part 2: After reading the novel, find examples of the five different literary devices (imagery, symbolism, metaphor, foreshadowing, and personification, etc.). Cite the example, and explain how it portrays that device in at least three sentences each.

*Ex. "...of skeletal refugees/crammed aboard a/sinking fishing boat/reaching up to the heavens/for help..." (Lai, p 194)*

Thanhha Lai utilizes imagery in order to paint a picture of the war torn sight which the main character is seeing through her innocent eyes. War is upon her homeland, and she is seeing the desperation of which people want to leave what used to be a calm and serene place....(ETC.)
Part 3: Read each passage below and analyze for character development, author’s purpose, and literary devices. Each passage should have at least three to five sentences of organized analysis.

If you do not understand the three points above, below are a list of resources for you to utilize what could help explain what I want analyzed.

1. “Maybe soldiers will no longer/patrol our neighborhood/maybe I can jump rope/after dark/maybe the whistles/that tell Mother/to push us under the bed/will stop screeching....The war is coming/ closer to home.” (Lai, p 4)
2. “A flattened chick/lies crooked/neck dangling/off his palm./The chick had not/a chance...”(Lai, p 84)
3. “What’s the point of/new shirts and sandals/if you lose the last/tangible remnant of love?” (Lai, p 104)
4. “People living on/ other's goodwill/ cannot afford/ political opinions.” (Lai, p 125)
5. “Would be simpler/if English/and life/were logical.” (Lai, p 135)
6. “No one would believe me/but at times/ I would choose/wartime in Saigon/over/peacetime in Alabama.” (Lai, p 195)
7. “At least/ we no longer live/ in waiting.” (Lai, p 252)
Choice Novel Assignment:

Directions: You will turn in a typed one full page (minimum) reflection paper on the following question:

How does this novel apply to my life?

Think about the novel’s setting, conflicts, historical connotations, character interactions and relationships, etc. Apply these factors to your life, and reflect on the connection between you as a reader and the novel’s content. Think of it as a journal activity, but focus on the following questions:

- Do I connect to the setting? Why or why not?
- Do I connect to the protagonist? Why or why not?
- Do I connect to the antagonist/the conflict? Why or why not?
- Do I connect to a theme? (Name a specific theme.) Why or why not?
- Can I pick out specific literary devices (imagery, symbolism, metaphor, hyperbole, etc.) that I like to see as a reader?
- Do I like the author’s tone? Why or Why not?
- Do I like the author’s style? Why or Why not?

The document should be typed in MLA format (Times New Roman Font, 12 pt sizing, 1 inch margins, double spaced, page numbers at the top right corner, and a proper heading- full name, date, teacher, and class).

Reflection RUBRIC: ________/70

Content:
Insertion of PERSONAL OPINION AND DIFFERENT IDEAS
(30 points)
The reflection is filled with clever, original, creative, and enthusiastic opinions/ideas in which the student has developed in an independent manner.

Style/Format:
Sentence structure and few grammatical errors (capitalization, punctuation, etc.)
(30 points)
Sentences have flow, rhythm, and cadence; reflect strong, varied structure with compound/complex sentences.
Higher Level Vocabulary/Word Choice
MLA Format

Content:
Minimum Plot Summary
(10 points)
Paragraphs are supported by student generated discussion and do not heavily rely on plot summary.