**Independent Reading**

**Discussion Questions**

**Directions:** For the second paragraph of the required reading responses, write a 5-sentence-minimum response to one of the following discussion questions. Include the discussion question and its number at the beginning of the paragraph. Submit the discussion response, along with the summary paragraph, to Moodle by the end of the last school day in the given week. Students should submit, no more than once per week, at least 6 reading responses each quarter.

**Fiction & Non-fiction Questions: General**

1. Why did you choose to read this text? What caught your interest? Explain.
2. What were your thoughts/feelings after reading the first few pages of the text? Explain.
3. What is the most important part of the text? Why?
4. What were the best parts of the text? Why?
5. What were the worst parts of the text? Why?
6. What parts of the text seemed the most believable? Why?
7. What parts of the text seemed unbelievable? Why?
8. What came as a surprise in the text? Why?
9. What confuses you in this text? Why?
10. Is there an idea in the text that makes you stop and think or prompts questions? Identify the idea and explain your responses.
12. Do you think the title fits the text? Why or why not?
13. Does this text seem similar to any other you have read? In what ways are these two similar? Explain.
14. What are your favorite lines or quotes in the text? Copy them down and explain why you like them.
15. Would you like to read other texts by this author? Why or why not?
16. Would you recommend this text to your friends? Why or why not?

**Fiction Questions: Character**

17. Which character do you like best? Why?
18. Which character do you like least? Why?
19. What other important characters are there in the text besides the main character(s)? How are they important to the plot? Explain.
20. What do you think of a particular character's actions? Are they right or wrong? Why?
21. What advice would you give a particular character? Why?
22. In what ways are you like any of the characters in the text? Explain.
23. Do any of the characters remind you of friends, family members, or classmates? Explain.
24. What character would you like to be in this text? Why?
25. If you could introduce a character from your text to your family, who would it be? Why?
26. Which character would you be ashamed to introduce to your family? Why?
27. Is the main character similar to a character you’ve read about in another text? What are the similarities?
28. Did any characters change during the course of the text? How did they change? What forces caused this change?

**Fiction Questions: Setting**
29. If your text took place in a different setting, how would that change the story? Why?
30. If you had the chance to travel to the place (or places) your text is set, would you? Explain.

**Fiction Questions: Plot**
31. What incident or conflict does the author use to begin the story? Why do you think the author chose this beginning? Explain.
32. What do you predict will happen next in your text? Why?
33. What clues did the author use to help you predict what was going to happen later? Explain.
34. How do you think this text will end? Explain.
35. Did the text end the way you thought it would? What clues did the author give you that made you think that? Did you think these clues were important when you read them?
36. Do you like the ending of this text? Why or why not? Do you think there is more to tell? What do you think might happen next? If you could change the ending of the text, what would you do? Why?
37. What were some of the events that created conflict in your text? Why?
39. What is the mood or tone of the text? How does the author create that mood?
40. If you could change an event in this text, what would it be and why?

**Non-Fiction Questions**
41. What new information did you learn while reading this text?
42. What was the author’s motivation (reason) for writing the text? Explain.
43. Did the text leave you with unanswered questions? What were they? Explain.
44. How did you connect to the text? Was it personal? Was it an issue that affects your community or the world? Explain.