

8th Grade Summer Reading 2016

Text: *With Every Drop of Blood*, James Lincoln Collier and Christopher Collier

Assignments:

1. **Annotations:** annotate the book according to the following guidelines (below). The annotated book will be handed in the first day of class and is worth 25 points. Grading (five points each): neatness, effort, clarity, character list, chapter summaries.
2. **Study Guide:** Complete the study guide questions to be handed in the first day of class. The completed study guide is worth 25.
3. **Objective Test:** Students will take an objective test (T/F, matching, and multiple choice) on the first day of school. The test will not delve into theme or inferential questions. The test is worth 30 points.

Class: Students will work through the novel with their class and teacher. The book will then come to a conclusion with a final cumulative assignment that will cover all summer work, class work, and discussions.

Annotation Guidelines:

- Underline/**highlight** important lines that deal with plot, character, and theme.
- (Parenthesis) or [brackets] – key speeches or descriptions that are too long to underline or **highlight** but are noteworthy
- Sidebar writing – marks (! & ?), notes or questions (foreshadowing), predictions (things you think will happen), and general comments (your connection to the characters and plot)
- In addition:
 - On the front cover (or a separate paper), in your own words, create a **character list** of all of the characters and a description of each. Hint: This is most easily compiled as you encounter the characters, providing an initial description. Then, at the middle, the end, or as you learn new information, go back and add to the initial information. In addition, note that secondary characters will not have as much of a description as primary characters.
 - After each chapter, write a **chapter summary**, in your own words, recounting the significant things that happened in that chapter. This must be more than three good, grammatically correct sentences.

WHY? Why annotate? Annotations show *active, engaged* reading. They show that you've responded to the text with questions like *Who? Why? How?* and *What does that word mean?* or *"I bet this will happen."* It helps you come back to definitive descriptions of characters and important thematic quotes. It is also a good way to say, *"Oh, good sentence."* Reading is about

hearing **and** seeing **and** feeling **and** comprehending **and** thinking critically **and** making connections to everything else you've ever read – all at the same time. If you struggle with reading, it is all the more reason to slow down, reread, and make sure you understand. Our motto for this year is: **“Good readers reread and good writers rewrite.”**

8th Grade Summer Reading Questions

With Every Drop of Blood, James Collier and Christopher Collier

Directions: Along with annotating your book, answer the following questions using complete, grammatically correct sentences. Make sure you use details and specific information from the novel to support your answers. Remember to restate the question in your response (RAPS).

Chapter 1:

1. Explain what happened to the narrator's father and where the event took place.
2. Describe how Johnny's father got hurt.

Chapter 2:

1. According to the narrator, what mistake did the South make?
2. Explain what Pa says the war is all about.

Chapter 3:

1. What does Ma tell Johnny when he returned from Charlottesville?
2. List three reasons that convince Ma to let Johnny go.

Chapter 4:

1. What are the two things that Johnny takes with him on his journey?
2. According to the Teamsters, what is wrong with one of the items that Johnny brought with him to fight the Yankees.

Chapter 5:

1. Explain the images that you see as the Mosbys are introduced and described.
2. Explain why, as according to Johnny, that mules are more preferable than horses.

Chapter 6:

1. Explain why Petersburg is an important place.
2. According to Johnny, what are Union prison camps supposed to be like?

3. Johnny and Private Turner do not agree about the reason for the war. Explain the reason for the war from each person's perspective.

Chapter 7:

1. What does Private Turner want Johnny to read to him? Why is this significant?
2. Explain Johnny's feelings about reading Private Turner's clippings.
3. Explain the lie that Johnny tells Private Turner, and his reasons for telling him the lie.

Chapter 8:

1. Explain what Johnny is doing in this chapter and why he is doing it.

Chapter 9:

1. How does Johnny convince the soldiers that he was not trying to escape?
2. Explain how Johnny does or does not follow through with the promise he had made concerning Jeb.

Chapter 10:

1. What does Cush do for Johnny and why does he do it?
2. Explain what Cush thinks Captain Bartlett may think Johnny really is.

Chapter 11:

1. What does Cush tell Johnny to do?
2. Explain what happens to Cush and Johnny's feelings about it.

Chapter 12:

1. What activity does Cush suggest they do in order to keep their minds off of being hungry?
2. Explain what Johnny admits to Cush and Cush's reaction.

Chapter 13:

1. What happens to Cush?

Chapter 14:

1. What special treat does Johnny get?