

Summer 2021

Dear Amani Family,

Summertime provides a tremendous opportunity for independent reading and to make up for any lost learning time due to the pandemic. Research shows students need to read during the summer to maintain their independent reading levels. During Summer School, we are offering grade-level **Zoom Book Clubs** for interested scholars. In addition to a book of their choice from their grade list, we are asking students to complete the Reading Log Assignment.

**Open a world of reading**

Sora offers the ability for students to explore age-appropriate digital books from Westchester Library System

**Here's how to access titles from the library through Sora:**

1. Install the Sora app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store, or go to [soraapp.com](https://soraapp.com).
2. In Sora, enter your setup code: **amanipcsny**
3. Under your Profile, select **Add a public library** and enter Westchester Library System
4. When you are ready to borrow a title, choose your school from the drop down, and sign in with: Google Login

**Sora**

Brought to you by Amani Public Charter School and built with ❤️ by OverDrive.

1. **Summer Reading (grades 5-8)**--See the table below for a list of book choices. In order to ensure that all scholars have safe access to summer reading during the Covid-19 pandemic, we recommend the SORA app. We now have access to the Westchester Library System using Sora. Here's how to access titles from the library through Sora:

- Install the Sora app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store, or go to [soraapp.com](https://soraapp.com).
- In Sora, enter your setup code: **amanipcsny**
- Under your Profile, select Add a public library and enter: Westchester Library System
- When you are ready to borrow a title, choose Amani from the drop down, and sign in with your Amani Google Login

2. **Summer School Tier 3:Enrichment- Book Clubs.** The Book Club book choices are highlighted in yellow below and will be available for pickup at Amani. Otherwise, download the SORA app. The book club for each grade level will meet for discussion four times this summer via Zoom. Starting June 7th, scholars can sign up for Book Club and pick up their grade level book during Eagle Academy. If your scholar is not participating in Eagle Academy, you can come to the main office to pick up their book and sign them up for a book club.

- Meeting Dates: July 7th, 21st and August 4th, 18th
  - Zoom links and times TBD through Book Club leader
3. **Reading Assignment (grades 5-8)**--Reading Log.

*Complete the reading log worksheet below.*

Please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns. Wishing you a wonderful summer!

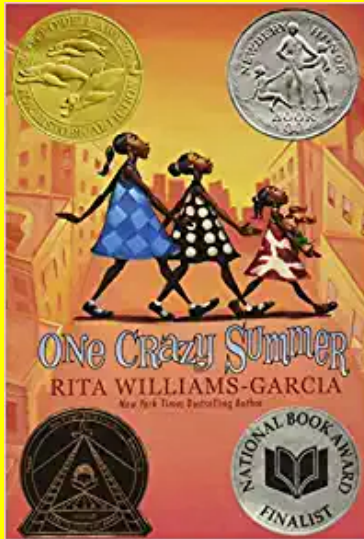
Sincerely,

Mrs. Jane Tulley  
Humanities Department Chair  
[JTulley@amanicharter.org](mailto:JTulley@amanicharter.org)

**Summer Reading (grades 5-8)**--SORA app. The highlighted option will be offered for Summer Book Clubs. A hard copy of the book is available for pickup at the Main Office.

## Entering 5th Grade Reading Assignment

Please choose **ONE** book from the following titles and then complete the summer Reading Assignment below:



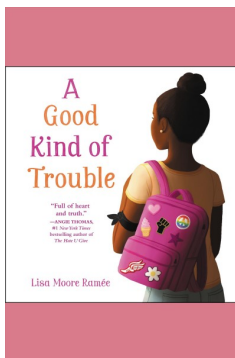
### 1. **One Crazy Summer** by Rita Williams-Garcia

Through the eyes of eleven-year-old Delphine, readers experience life in Oakland, California, in 1968, during the height of the Black Panther movement. Delphine and her two younger sisters, Vonetta and Fern, spend a summer in Oakland visiting their estranged mother who sends them to spend their days at a camp run by the Black Panthers. Through it all, they build confidence in themselves and their relationships with others as they learn to challenge and respond to social issues in the community.



### 2. **The Mighty Miss Malone** by Christopher Paul Curtis

Deza is the smartest girl in her class in Gary, Indiana, singled out by teachers for a special path in life. But the Great Depression hit Gary hard, and there are no jobs for black men. When her beloved father leaves to find work, Deza, Mother, and her older brother Jimmie go in search of him and end up in a Hooverville outside Flint, Michigan. The twists and turns of their story reveal the devastation of the Depression and prove that Deza truly is the Mighty Miss Malone.



### 3. **A Good Kind of Trouble** by Lisa Moore Ramee

After attending a powerful protest, Shayla starts wearing an armband to school to support the Black Lives Matter movement, but when the school gives her an ultimatum, she is forced to choose between her education and her identity.



#### 4. Space Case (Moon Base Alpha) by Stuart Gibbs

It's a murder mystery on the moon in this humorous and suspenseful space adventure. Like his fellow lunarnauts—otherwise known as Moonies—living on Moon Base Alpha, twelve-year-old Dashiell Gibson is famous the world over for being one of the first humans to live on the moon.

And he's bored out of his mind. Kids aren't allowed on the lunar surface, meaning they're trapped inside the tiny moon base with next to nothing to occupy their time—and the only other kid Dash's age spends all his time hooked into virtual reality games.

Then Moon Base Alpha's top scientist turns up dead. Dash senses there's foul play afoot, but no one believes him. Everyone agrees Dr. Holtz went onto the lunar surface without his helmet properly affixed, simple as that. But Dr. Holtz was on the verge of an important new discovery, Dash finds out, and it's a secret that could change everything for the Moonies—a secret someone just might kill to keep...

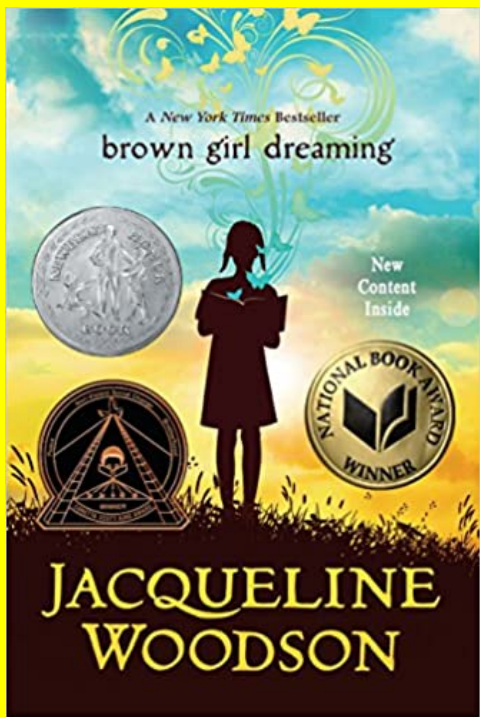


#### 5. Wonder by R.j. Palacio

Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities and was not expected to survive, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, which entails enduring the taunting and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student.

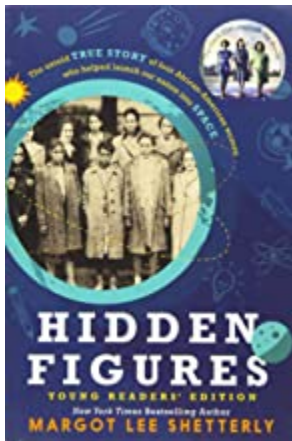
### Entering 6th Grade Reading Assignment

Please choose ONE book from the following titles and then complete the summer Reading Assignment below



### 1. **Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson**

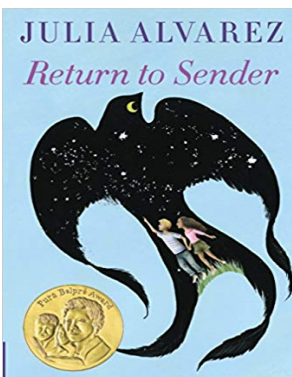
Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world.



### 2. **Hidden Figures Young Readers' Edition by Margot Lee Shetterly**

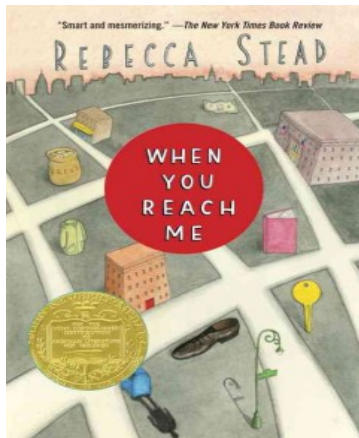
Before John Glenn orbited the earth, or Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of dedicated female mathematicians known as “human computers” used pencils, slide rules, and adding machines to calculate the numbers that would launch rockets, and astronauts, into space.

This book brings to life the stories of Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, Katherine Johnson, and Christine Darden, who lived through the Civil Rights era, the Space Race, the Cold War, and the movement for gender equality, and whose work forever changed the face of NASA and the country.



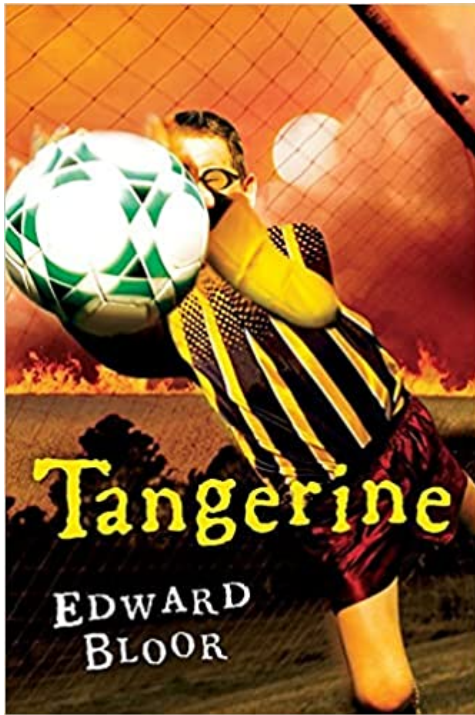
### 3. **Return to Sender by Julia Alvarez**

After Tyler's father is injured in a tractor accident, his family is forced to hire migrant Mexican workers to help save their Vermont farm from foreclosure. Tyler isn't sure what to make of these workers. Are they undocumented? And what about the three daughters, particularly Mari, the oldest, who is proud of her Mexican heritage but also increasingly connected to her American life. Her family lives in constant fear of being discovered by the authorities and sent back to the poverty they left behind in Mexico. Can Tyler and Mari find a way to be friends despite their differences?



#### 4. **When You Reach Me** by Rebecca Stead

In the 1980s, as her mother prepares to be a contestant on a television game show, Miranda tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seems to defy the laws of time and space.

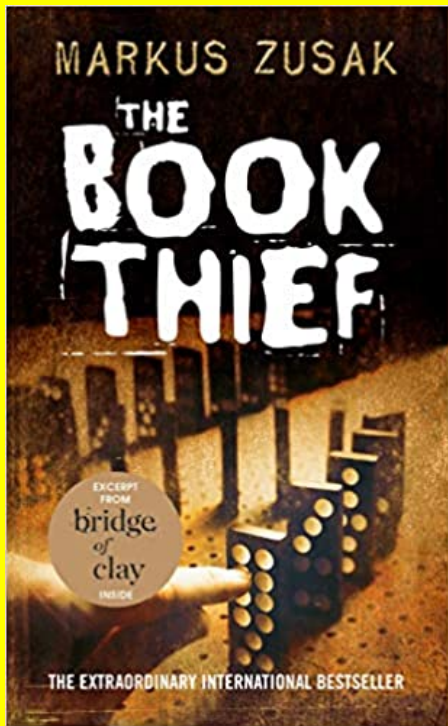


#### 5. **Tangerine** by Edward Bloor

Paul Fisher sees the world from behind glasses so thick he looks like a bug-eyed alien. But he's not so blind that he can't see there are some very unusual things about his family's new home in Tangerine County, Florida. Where else does a sinkhole swallow the local school, fire burn underground for years, and lightning strikes at the same time every day? The chaos is compounded by constant harassment from his football-star brother, and adjusting to life in Tangerine isn't easy for Paul—until he joins the soccer team at his middle school. With the help of his new teammates, Paul begins to discover what lies beneath the surface of his strange new hometown. And he also gains the courage to face up to some secrets his family has been keeping from him for far too long. In Tangerine, it seems, anything is possible.

## Entering 7th Grade Reading Assignment

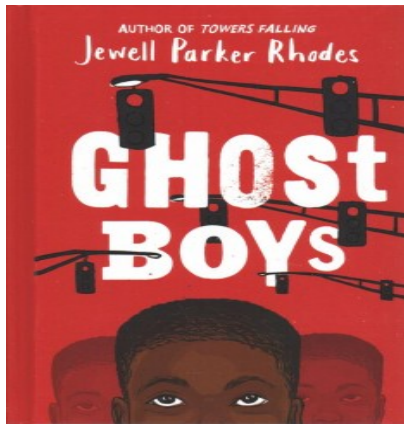
Please choose ONE book from the following titles and then complete the summer Reading Assignment below



1. **The Book Thief** by Markus Zusak  
When Death has a story to tell, you listen.

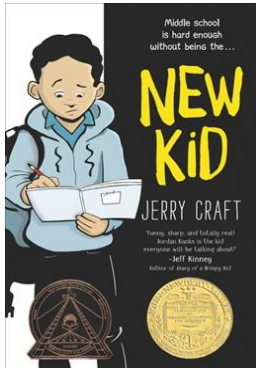
It is 1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier, and will become busier still.

Liesel Meminger is a foster girl living outside of Munich, who scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist—books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement.



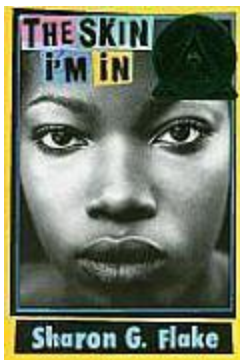
2. **Ghost Boys** by Jewell Parker Rhodes

After seventh-grader Jerome is shot by a white police officer, he observes the aftermath of his death and meets the ghosts of other fallen black boys including historical figure Emmett Till.



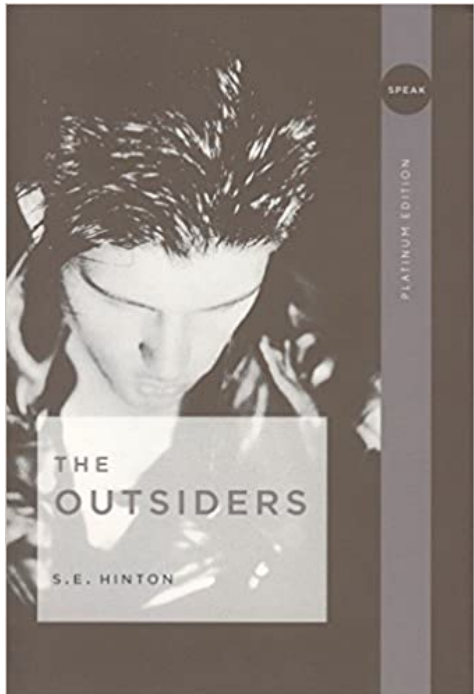
### 3. **New Kid** by Jerry Craft

Seventh-grader Jordan Banks loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life. But instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade. As he makes the daily trip from his Washington Heights apartment to the upscale Riverdale Academy Day School, Jordan soon finds himself torn between two worlds—and not really fitting into either one. Can Jordan learn to navigate his new school culture while keeping his neighborhood friends and staying true to himself?



### 4. **The Skin I'm In** by Sharon G. Flake

Maleeka suffers every day from the taunts of the other kids in her class. If they're not getting at her about her homemade clothes or her good grades, it's about her dark, black skin. When a new teacher, whose face is blotchy with a startling white patch, starts at their school, Maleeka can see there is bound to be trouble for her too. But the new teacher's attitude surprises Maleeka. Miss Saunders loves the skin she's in. Can Maleeka learn to do the same?

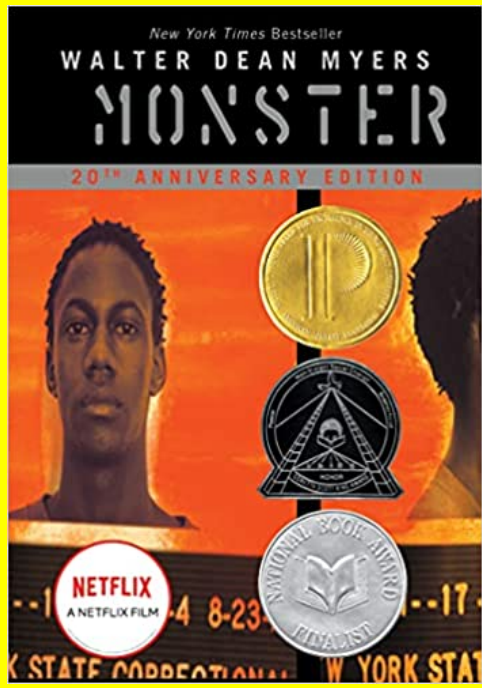


### 5. **The Outsiders** by S. E. Hinton

No one ever said life was easy. But Ponyboy is pretty sure that he's got things figured out. He knows that he can count on his brothers, Darry and Sodapop. And he knows that he can count on his friends—true friends who would do anything for him, like Johnny and Two-Bit. But not on much else besides trouble with the Socs, a vicious gang of rich kids whose idea of a good time is beating up on “greasers” like Ponyboy. At least he knows what to expect—until the night someone takes things too far.

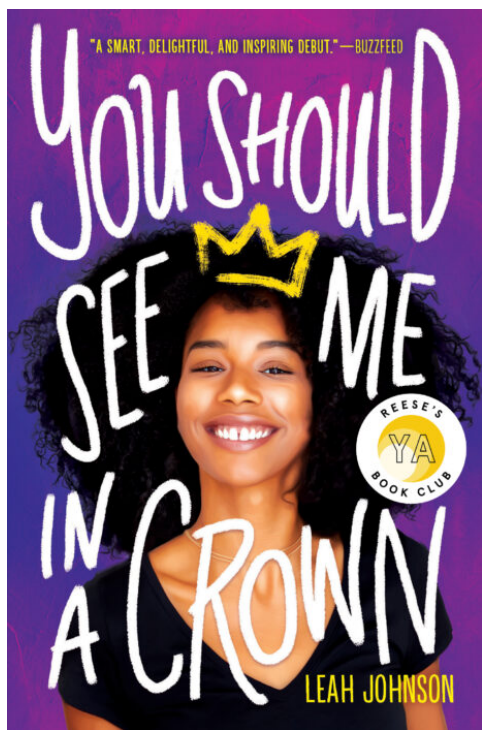
## Entering 8th Grade Reading Assignment

Please choose ONE book from the following titles and then complete the summer Reading Assignment below



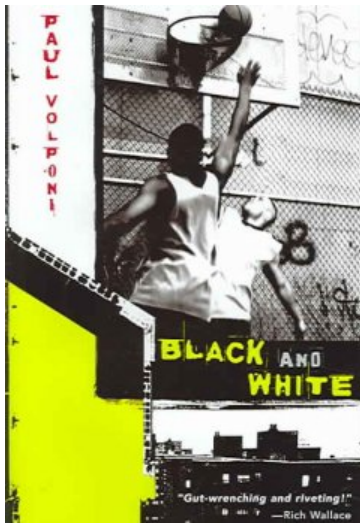
### 1. **Monster** by Walter Dean Myers

Steve Harmon is a teenage boy in juvenile detention and on trial. Presented as a screenplay of Steve's own imagination, and peppered with journal entries, the book shows how one single decision can change our whole lives. Now a major Motion Picture on Netflix.



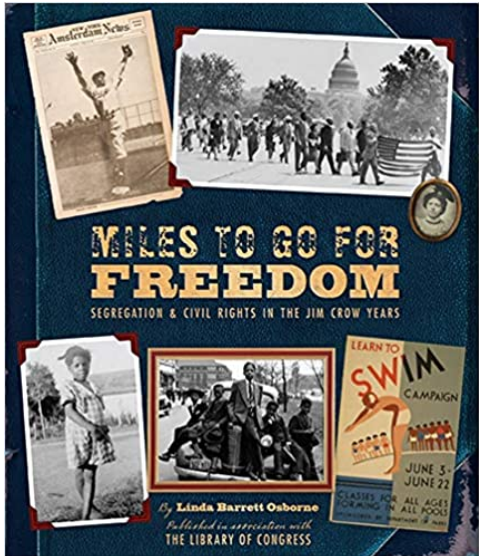
### 2. **You Should See Me in a Crown** by Leah Johnson

Liz Lighty has always believed she's too black, too poor, too awkward to shine in her small, rich, prom-obsessed midwestern town. But it's okay -- Liz has a plan that will get her out of Campbell, Indiana, forever: attend the uber-elite Pennington College, play in their world-famous orchestra, and become a doctor. But when the financial aid she was counting on unexpectedly falls through, Liz's plans come crashing down . . . until she's reminded of her school's scholarship for prom king and queen. There's nothing Liz wants to do less than endure a gauntlet of social media trolls, catty competitors, and humiliating public events, but despite her devastating fear of the spotlight she's willing to do whatever it takes to get to Pennington. The only thing that makes it halfway bearable is the new girl in school, Mack. She's smart, funny, and just as much of an outsider as Liz. But Mack is also in the running for queen. Will falling for the competition keep Liz from her dreams . . . or make them come true?



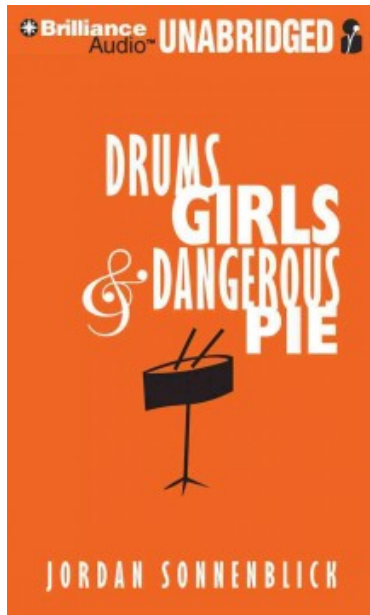
### 3. Black And White by Paul Volponi

Two star high school basketball players, one black and one white, experience the justice system differently after committing a crime together and getting caught.



### 4. Miles to Go for Freedom: Segregation & Civil Rights in the Jim Crow Years by Linda Barrett Osborne

Told through unforgettable first-person accounts, photographs, and other primary sources, this book is an overview of racial segregation and early civil rights efforts in the United States from the 1890s to 1954, a period known as the Jim Crow years. Multiple perspectives are examined as the book looks at the impact of legal segregation and discrimination on the day-to-day life of black and white Americans across the country. Complete with a bibliography and an index, this book is an important addition to black history books for young readers.



### 5. Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie by Jordan Sonnenblick

The life of eighth-grader Steven Alper, already complicated by his friendship with two girls and a prodigious talent for drumming, is turned upside down when his five-year-old brother Jeffrey is diagnosed with leukemia.

3. Reading Assignment--Reading Log

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Choose one title from the recommended summer reading list. As you read FIND 3 passages that made you think. Write the page number and quote the whole interesting passage (It Says). Write a response to the passage (I say) using ONE of the habits of proficient readers. You are to write a **minimum of SIX sentences**.

<b><u>Make a Prediction</u></b>	<b><u>Ask a Question</u></b>	<b><u>Clarify Something</u></b>	<b><u>Make a Comment</u></b>	<b><u>Make a Connection</u></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● I predict that.....</li> <li>● Reading this part makes me think that this (fill in the detail) is about to happen...</li> <li>● I think that....</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Why did...</li> <li>● What's this part about...</li> <li>● What would happen if...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Now I understand...</li> <li>● This makes sense now..</li> <li>● At first I thought (fill in detail), but now I think...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● This is good because...</li> <li>● This is confusing because...</li> <li>● My favorite part so far is...</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● This reminds me of...</li> <li>● This is similar to...</li> <li>● This character makes me think of...</li> <li>● This setting reminds me of....</li> </ul>

It Says: (where in text did you find your answer?)	I say: (what are your thoughts/ideas about the answer?)
<b>Book Title:</b> _____ <b>Author:</b> _____	
Page No.: _____ Quote from text:	
Page No.: _____ Quote from text:	
Page No.: _____ Quote from text:	