

8th grade Summer Reading
The Secret Garden
by Frances Hodgson Burnett

***Please write your answers in complete sentences and on a separate sheet of paper. Attach your paper to this outline.**

Plot Elements Definitions:

Exposition (beginning)—The story begins and characters are introduced.

Setting— Where a story takes place.

Rising Action—Something happens to make the story more interesting; the characters have a problem.

Climax—The most suspenseful part of the story; the characters must finally face their problems and make decisions.

Falling Action—The character has made a decision about how to handle the problem, and now the story is coming to a close.

Resolution (ending)—The story concludes as the action comes to an end.

Protagonist—The leading character or one of the major characters of the story.

Antagonist—A person who is opposed to, struggles against, or competes with another; opponent; adversary.

Theme—The subject of a talk, a piece of writing, a person's thoughts, or an exhibition; a topic.

Questions: Explain the answers in great detail on a separate piece of paper.

1. Who are the protagonist(s) in the story?
2. Who are the antagonist(s) in the story?
3. What is the exposition? Please include the major settings.
4. What is the rising action of the story?
5. What is the climax of the story?
6. What is the falling action of the story?
7. What is the resolution?
8. What does the protagonist learn? Is the protagonist changed in his mind or heart by the events of the story?

9. Mary and Colin are similar in many ways. List at least three ways Mary and Colin are alike. Make sure to use examples from the story to support your answer (as always, include page numbers.)

Summer Reading instructions

1. Read the entire book that has been assigned to your grade.
2. On a separate sheet of paper, answer each question in complete sentences. Your answers should be typed, using Times New Roman 12 font, and should be double spaced.
3. The summer reading assignment is due on Monday, August 14 and should be turned in to your English teacher.
4. The summer reading assignment will be your first test grade in English. This novel will be used during the first several weeks of school, resulting in additional classroom assignments.
5. All work should be the student's own, original work. No plagiarized assignments will be accepted.
6. Each student must also turn in a completed Summer Reading Form to their English teacher on Monday, August 14. This will be a daily assignment grade.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Grade: _____

Middle School English Summer Reading Form

Please answer the following honestly. Your signature will be your verification of the honesty of this report.

The following accurately describes my summer reading involvement (check the correct one):

_____ I read every page of the book assigned for my grade and completed a summer reading assignment.

_____ I have not completed my assigned summer reading book and/or a summer reading assignment.

*****If you checked the second choice, please explain below:**

We hereby agree that the above information is honest and accurate:

X _____
Student Printed Name

X _____
Student Signature

X _____
Parent/Guardian Printed Name

X _____
Parent/Guardian Signature