SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT 2016-2017
HMS GRADE 7 LANGUAGE ARTS

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Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

This summer all students entering grade 7 at Hackensack Middle School are expected to complete a summer reading assignment. Research indicates that summer reading improves academic performance. The goal of this assignment is to help students prepare for the rigorous academic challenges of 7th grade.

Students should read *at least* one new book and then complete the attached assignment. Students should follow the rules of formal writing (correct grammar, complete sentences, proper punctuation, and proper capitalization).

This assignment will count towards students' Marking Period 1 grade. The Summer Reading Assignment is **due Monday, September 12, 2016**.

Students who do not complete the assignment by the due date or who are new to the Hackensack School District will be required to read and use a short text (assigned by their language arts teacher) to complete the Summer Reading Assignment.

Have a wonderful summer!

HMS Grade 7 Language Arts Department

ASSIGNMENT: READING FICTION
(a "made-up" story with characters, setting, and plot details)

Choose a fictional novel that is grade-level appropriate and not a novel that you have previously read. The novel can be historical, realistic, science, or mystery fiction. While reading, take notes about the **main character** and about the novel's biggest **conflict**. After reading, you will use your notes and understanding of the book to complete two graphic organizers.

Main Character:

The main character is also called the protagonist and is the central or most important character in a story around whom plot events are focused. The main character usually undergoes a change as a result of the events in the story.

- While reading, jot notes about the character by asking yourself these questions:

    - *What does the character look like?*
    - *What is the character feeling?*
    - *What is the character thinking?*
    - *How does the character act?*
    - *How does the character act towards other characters?*

Tip: How to Take Notes
State the chapter and the characters involved. Include page numbers.
Example:

> **Chapter 1**
> **page 2** - *Douglas is 13 years old, tall for his age, and his family says he's cute*
> **page 6** - *Douglas seems like he's worried about starting at a new school.*

Conflict:

Authors incorporate different types of **conflicts** in their stories. These **conflicts** drive the action and create suspense in the novel. Conflicts can be internal (character vs. self) or external (character vs. character, character vs. society, character vs. nature, character vs. technology, character vs. the supernatural, etc.). An internal conflict occurs when a character feels two opposite emotions or desires. An external conflict occurs when a character struggles against an outside force that prevents him or her from being happy.

- While reading, jot notes about the conflict by asking yourself these questions:

    - What is the problem?
    - Who is involved in this conflict?
    - How is the main character handling the conflict?
    - Was he or she successful? Why or why not?

Hackensack Middle School
Incoming 7th Grade Fiction Summer Reading List

This is a suggested summer reading list to be read in addition to any class summer assignments.

Title	Author	Description	Genre	Level
Shug	Jenny Han	A twelve-year-old girl learns about friendship, first loves, and self-worth in a small town in the South.	Realistic	680L
Cuba 15	Nancy Osa	Violet Paz, a Chicago high school student, reluctantly prepares for her upcoming "quince," a Spanish nickname for the celebration of an Hispanic girl's fifteenth birthday.	Realistic	750L
After Tupac and D Foster	Jacqueline Woodson	In the New York City borough of Queens in 1996, three girls bond over their shared love of Tupac Shakur's music, as together they try to make sense of the unpredictable world in which they live.	Realistic	750L
Peak	Roland Smith	A fourteen-year-old boy attempts to be the youngest person to reach the top of Mount Everest.	Adventure	760L
Airman	Eoin Colfer	In the 1890s on an island off the Irish coast, Conor Broekhart is falsely imprisoned and passes the solitary months by scratching designs of flying machines into the walls, including one for a glider with which he dreams of escape.	Adventure	800L
Dangerous	Shannon Hale	When aspiring astronaut Maisie Danger Brown, who was born without a right hand, and the other space camp students get the opportunity to do something amazing in space, Maisie must prove how dangerous she can be and how far she is willing to go to protect everything she has ever loved.	Adventure	HL680L
Kick	Walter Dean Myers	Told in their separate voices, thirteen-year-old soccer star Kevin and police sergeant Brown, who knew his father, try to keep Kevin out of juvenile hall after he is arrested on very serious charges.	Sports	710L

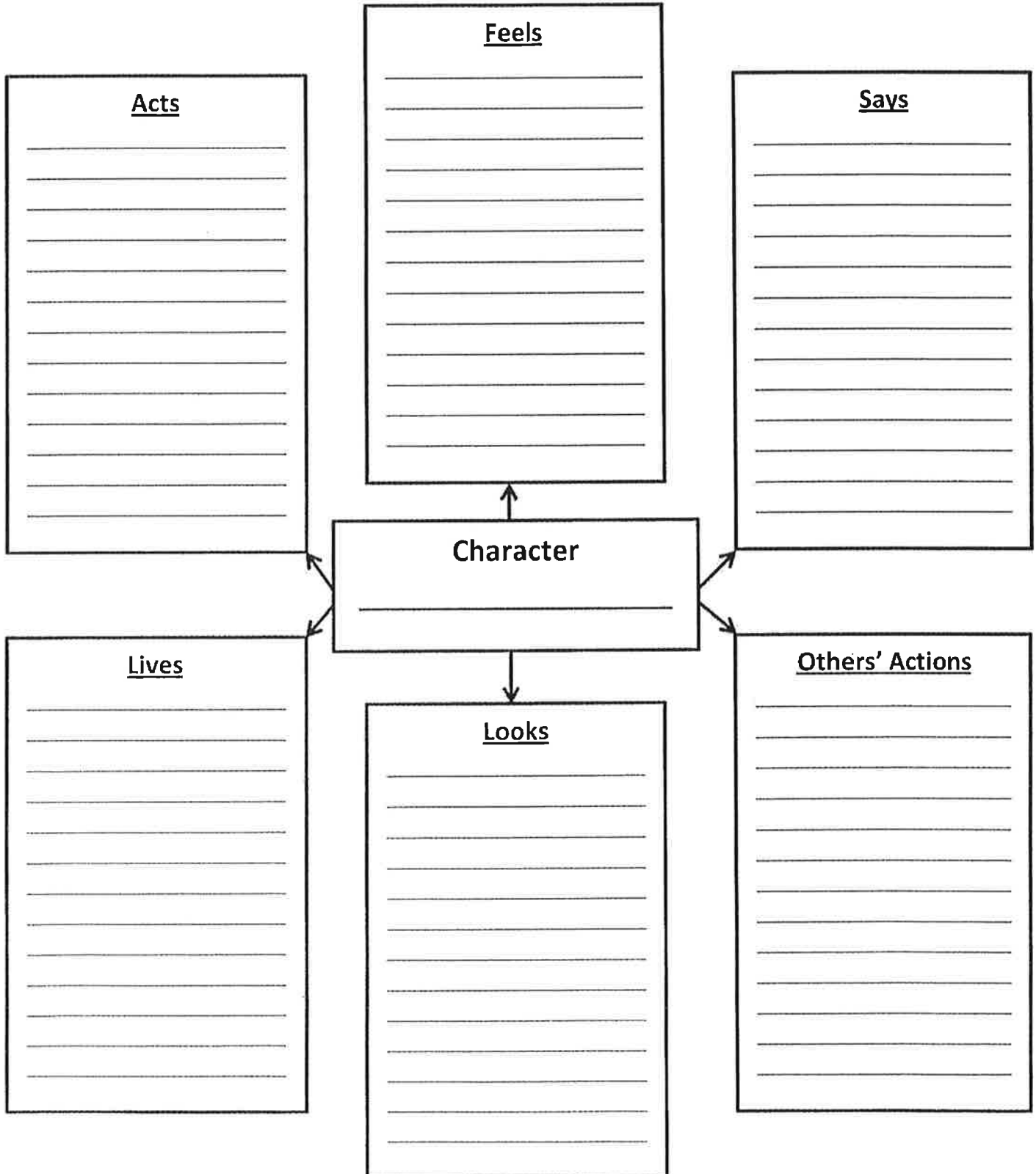| Title	Author	Description	Genre	Lexile
The Kayla Chronicles	Sherri Winston	Kayla transforms herself from mild-mannered journalist to hot-trotting dance diva in order to properly investigate her high school's dance team, and has a hard time remaining true to her real self while in the role.	Realistic	700L
I Pledge Allegiance	Chris Lynch	Enlisting as a group when one of them is drafted into the Vietnam War, best friends Morris, Rudi, Ivan, and Beck pledge their loyalty to one another before reporting to different branches of service.	History	860L
Incarceron	Catherine Fisher	To free herself from an upcoming arranged marriage, Claudia, the daughter of the Warden of Incarceron, a futuristic prison with a mind of its own, decides to help a young prisoner escape.	Fantasy	HL600L
Ranger's Apprentice: The Ruins of Gorlan	John Flanagan	When fifteen-year-old Will is rejected by "battleschool", he becomes the reluctant apprentice to the mysterious Ranger Halt, and winds up protecting the kingdom from danger.	Fantasy	920L
Matched	Ally Condie	Cassia has always had complete trust in the Society to make decisions for her, but when she is being paired with her ideal mate, a second face flashes on the screen, and Cassia begins to doubt the Society's infallibility as she tries to decide which man she truly loves.	Fantasy	HL680L
Steelheart	Brandon Sanderson	At age eight, David watched as his father was killed by an Epic, a human with superhuman powers, and now, ten years later, he joins the Reckoners--the only people who are trying to kill the Epics and end their tyranny.	Science Fiction	HL680L
Summer of the Mariposas	Guadalupe Garcia McCall	In an adventure reminiscent of Homer's Odyssey, fifteen-year-old Odilia and her four younger sisters embark on a journey to return a dead man to his family in Mexico, aided by La Llorona, but impeded by a witch, a warlock, chupacabras, and more.	Adventure	840L

Name: _____   Date: _____

Character Organizer

Directions: Use your annotations to complete the following organizer. Identify examples of how the main character acts, feels, looks, lives, says, and how he or she affects others.

Book Title: _____   **Author:** _____

Feels

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Acts

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Says

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Character

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Lives

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Looks

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Others' Actions

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Conflict Organizer

Directions: Please identify one internal and one external conflict present in your book. Be sure to identify the conflict type, protagonist, antagonist, explain the conflict, and **find two pieces of evidence** from the text to support each conflict.

Internal Conflict – Character vs. Self	
Protagonist:	**Antagonist:**
What is the conflict?	
Evidence from the text, Page ____:	
Evidence from the text, Page ____:	

External Conflict – Character vs. _____	
Protagonist:	**Antagonist:**
What is the conflict?	
Evidence from the text, Page ____:	
Evidence from the text, Page ____:	