



Rising Scholars Academy

8th Grade English Language Arts

Summer Reading PROJECT

The Pearl by John Steinbeck

Welcome to 8th grade English Language Arts! Summer is a time where you can relax and have fun, but did you know you may also experience learning loss over the summer months if you do not continue to practice your reading? In order to maintain the literacy skills you gained in seventh grade, you will be required to read The Pearl, by John Steinbeck, for summer reading. Even though this book is a novella (a story that is longer than a short story, but shorter than a novel), there are many layers for discussion during the first few weeks of school.

Attached, you will find the required assignments for summer reading. You must have the novella and assignments completed by the first day of school. You will be given a reading test over the novella within the first week of school. Make sure you have a copy of the novella (either a physical copy, or digital) with you for class. We will discuss the novella and complete assignments pertaining to the novella within the first few weeks of school.

Have a great summer and see you in August!

-RSA English Language Arts Department

Activity One
The Pearl-Literary Vocabulary
(worth up to 25 points)

1. Parable-

2. Allegory-

3. Literal meaning-

4. Symbol-

List three symbols in The Pearl, and what each symbolizes.

5. Protagonist-

List the protagonist of The Pearl. How do you know that person is the protagonist?

6. Antagonist-

List at least one antagonist in The Pearl. What makes this person/thing an antagonist?

7. Metaphor-

Give one example of a metaphor in The Pearl and explain what the metaphor compares.

8. Theme-

Activity Three
The Pearl- Tic-Tac-Toe

(worth up to 50 points)

Directions: Complete **three** of the activities listed below in either one vertical, one diagonal, or one horizontal row.

<p>Outline the plot of the novella. Make sure you use a plot diagram to aid in completion.</p>	<p>Identify the characters in the novella. Be sure to include characteristics of each character as well as a physical description.</p>	<p>Give each chapter a new title that represents the main idea of the chapter.</p>
<p>Create a picture book of five scenes from the novella. Each scene must have a minimum of a three sentence caption.</p>	<p>Pick a topic from the book and research it. Write a one paragraph (8-10 sentences) explanation of the topic.</p>	<p>Didn't like the ending? Rewrite it! Write a different ending to the story of Kino, Juana, and Coyotito.</p>
<p>Write a letter to the author, John Steinbeck. Be sure to include what you considered the strongest part of the novella and what you thought was the weakest. Finally, end your letter with whether you would recommend this novella to a classmate. Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your claims (likes/dislike, recommendation).</p>	<p>Make a list of no fewer than 10 words you did not know the meaning of. Using context clues, define the term. Write the sentence the term appears in and then using a dictionary, define the word.</p>	<p>Create a poster with visuals identifying four symbols in the novella. Be sure to write a description of how each symbol is used in the novella. Use examples from the story.</p>