**Free Reading Book Social Discussion**

Book club members will split into different groups and discuss their book with students who have read other books. To celebrate your book club reading selection, you and your classmates will have a book/social discussion. Listed below are different sets of questions that you and your classmates will address in your discussion groups.

*What to bring to discussion day:* You need to bring well-developed, written responses to the questions from each session. The teacher will be checking to make sure you have your responses. You are to use your responses in your group discussions, but you may discuss beyond what you have written down.

*How will you be graded?* We want you to enjoy the discussion and to participate in the discussions, so we, the teachers, will monitor your group’s discussion. Therefore, you will be graded based on your written responses and your participation/depth during the discussions.

**Book Club Meeting 1: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24 (The day before Thanksgiving break)**

**Directions: Answer the following questions and bring them, TYPED, to class on the day of our book club meeting.**

Answer all five below:

1. What is the title, author, and general plot of the book (do not spoil it for others!)?
2. Evaluate this plot on a scale of 1-4 with “1” being “Not worth recommending” and “4” being “Everyone should read this!” and explain why you gave the rating you did.
3. If you were going to recommend this text to someone, who would it be? What in the text would that person like?
4. What does the title of the book relate to the rest of the story? What does the title have to do with the theme of your story?
5. What other books, movies, or plays did this story remind you of? Why?

Author’s style (CHOOSE 3) (Questions 6-8)

* As you read this text, describe how you felt. For example, were you bored, caught up thinking about characters, thinking about how you might react if in the same situation, enjoying the author’s writing style, or enjoying humor or suspense? Explain.
* What did the author of this text do that helped you enjoy the story? That made you not enjoy the story?
* Did you like how this author wrote the text? What did you like or not like? Consider things like setting, description, use of dialogue, characterization, explanation of conflict, foreshadowing, symbolism, as well as length of chapters, length of sentences, choice of chapter titles, and use of illustrations.
* How did the author make the story come alive in your mind? What specific words or phrases did the author use to help you see events, characters, and settings vividly?
* Find a section of the text that you particularly liked. What did the author do to help you like that section?
* Look at the beginning of chapters. What did the author do to make you want to read the rest of the chapter? Also look at the endings. Did the author do something special to make you want to read on to the next chapter?
* Would you want to read another book by this author? Why or why not?
* What other writer or writers does this author remind you of? Why?

Theme (Choose 3) (Questions 9-11)

* What message did you take away from reading this text? Why?
* How can you take the theme from this story and apply it to your life or why would you prefer not to apply that theme to your life?
* What points do you agree or disagree with that were made in the story?
* Which passage in the text would you consider most significant or most important? Why did that passage help shape what you consider to be the message/theme of the text?

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**Book Club Meeting 2:**

**Directions: Answer the following questions and bring them, TYPED, to class on the day of our book club meeting.**

1. What is the title, author, and general plot of the book (do not spoil it for others!)?
2. Evaluate this plot on a scale of 1-4 with “1” being “Not worth recommending” and “4” being “Everyone should read this!” and explain why you gave the rating you did.
3. If you could talk to the author about this book, what would you ask?

Setting (Choose 3) Questions 4-6

* Does this setting remind you of a place you know? Was it better or worse because of this?
* Was the setting important to the text? Why or why not?
* How would you change the setting without changing the outcome?
* How could you change the setting so that it would affect the outcome?

Characterization

7. If you could take on the qualities of any of the characters in this text, what qualities would those be?

Quotes/Important passages (Choose 2) Questions 8-9

* “My favorite quote is…” “I like this quote because…”
* “The most important quotes in this text are…” “They are important because…”
* This quote/passage captures a theme because…” “This quote is symbolic because…”

Questions to encourage reflection on the point of view

10. Who told the story in the text you just read? Was the narrator a character in the story, or an omniscient narrator? How did the narrator affect your reading of this story?

11. How would the text have changed if a different character had told the story?

12. Speculate on how the author chose the narrator he or she did to tell the story.

Connecting

13. If this text were to be made into a movie, which movie stars would you cast in which roles? Why?

14. Think about several texts that you’ve enjoyed. Do they share similar themes? Different themes? IF they share similar themes, what does that tell you about what you are looking for in a book or a story?