

Q1 Reading Ladder: Analyzing your reading progress

Purpose: to step back and look at what you have accomplished as a reader in order to measure progress and set new goals for quarter two and the rest of the school year.

Process:

- A. **Create a Table of Completed Titles** to show your progress this quarter. A reading ladder, in this case, is a list of the books you've read arranged in order of most difficult (top) to easiest (bottom) reading. There are lots of ways to define *most difficult* but some you may consider: the size of the text and the number of pages, the subject matter (high school romance is easier to follow than a memoir from Iraq since the memoir will likely include references to places you don't know and require more complex thinking than pleasure reading), the speed with which you finished the book, vocabulary and/or whether this was a new author or a well-known one to you. I want your gut feel for difficulty in the books you've read so far.
- B. **Write a short (3-8 sentences) review of each book you finished this quarter.** A *review* is not a *summary*—it is a personal evaluation that details the good and bad aspects of the story, its elements, and its writing. Note: if you read more than five books, you only need to review the 5 at the top of your list (meaning the most difficult). The others will only be listed on your ladder.
- C. Add up the total pages read, and divide by 8 weeks—the number of weeks we have read this quarter—to **determine your average pages read per week. Write a paragraph (6-8 sentences) reaction to this number.** Discuss how much you have read this quarter compared to this summer or last school year. Discuss if you are challenging yourself to read more and increase your stamina in order to prepare yourself for complex reading in college or the workplace, or if you are just reading in class and a little here and there at home, but not making a significant difference in your stamina and creating a reading habit.
- D. **Set goals for quarter 2 and the rest of the school year**—at least 3 of them. These should be specific: I will read 15 books by June. I will read at least one nonfiction book. I will read one novel from the AP suggested reading list. I will read 3 novels by the same author. I will develop an at-home reading habit. I will...

Due: tomorrow (Tuesday, 11/3), at the end of the period. Follow the format on the following page. All responses should be typed, organized, and saved to your iPad. Please email me a pdf copy of your completed work (lspaman@zps.org). I will grade these as we begin to conference about our reading next week.

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Name _____

A. Titles (with authors' names) Completed in Order of Difficulty	B. Reviews
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	SKIP REVIEW
7.	SKIP REVIEW
8.	SKIP REVIEW

Add more spaces if necessary.

C. Total number of pages in all titles completed this quarter: _____ / 8 = _____ (average number of pages read each week)

Reaction:

D. Goals moving forward:

- 1.

- 2.

- 3.