

# Readers Notebook

We will have time each class period to read independently – this means you will get the chance to choose your own reading material. You will need to come to class each day with a book to read and your reader’s notebook. Your reading goal for the year is 40 books. Any books over 350 pages, will count as TWO books.

In addition to reading 40 books, you will be keeping a reader’s notebook. You will need a notebook dedicated to just this (a small spiral notebook should work), you may also use a folder. Your notebook will be divided into four sections:

## Section I: Tally List

This will include columns for genre requirements and the number of titles you’ve completed in each section. Example below:

Genre Requirements	# Required	# Completed	Teacher Sign-Off
Poetry Collection (10+ poems) one book	3		
Realistic/Historical Fiction	7		
Traditional Literature (Classics)	5		
Science Fiction/Fantasy	4		
Mystery	4		
Informational, Bio, Autobiography, Memoir	4		
Reader’s Choice	13		

## Section II: Reading List

Here you will record all titles you’ve read or attempted and abandoned.

Each entry should include: Title, Author, Date finished, Difficulty, Rating (1-5)

Example below:

Title	Author	Date Started	Date Finished	Difficulty	Rating
The Book Whisperer	Donalyn Miller			Easy/Normal	5
Readicide	Kelly Gallagher			Difficult	5

## Section III: Books-to-Read List

Plan for future reading (sequels yet to be published, books recommended by peers/teacher, books previewed, etc.)

Here you will create a list of book titles and authors of books you plan to read. The list needs to be constantly growing.

1. Tom Brokaw, The Generation Speaks
2. Philip Caputo, A Rumor of War
3. Shakespeare, Mid Summer Nights Dream

## Section IV: Response Entries

Here you will reflect personal reactions to the books you read and on the author's writing.

I will respond to each journal entry.

1 entry per week. Begin each entry with: Dear \_\_\_\_\_ (Teacher's Name)

Response entry prompts: Choose a few of the following for your response (if you can't think of anything to write):

- I noticed...
- I wonder...
- I think...
- I was reminded of...
- I'm surprised that...
- I'd like to know...
- I realized...
- If I were...
- The central issue(s) here is (are)...
- One consequence of \_\_\_\_\_ could be...
- If \_\_\_\_\_, then...
- I'm not sure...
- Although it seems...
- The author's purpose is...
- Discuss character complexity or development
- Discuss development of theme, plot, or conflict
- If this book had gone one more chapter what would've happened?
- Evaluate the ending

**CHECKLIST:** make sure to include the following elements in your letter  
Date, "Dear Ms. Johnmeyer (or Dear Mrs. Stone)", greeting, short summary of where you are in the story, personal reflection, comments, and personal questions about the story, closing, and name.

## Section V: Book Reviews

Each quarter you will have to complete two book reviews on your choice of books (any that you've completed by the end of the quarter). There are 2 quarters in each semester which means you'll have 4 book reviews due for the whole semester. You'll get details on those later in the semester.

## Final Readers Notebook Grade:

Section 1 = 25 points	Tally List – Genre Requirements (if you've covered them all, you're good)
Section 2 = 25 points	Tally List (if you've kept this up to date, you're good)
Section 3 = 25 points	To-Read List (if this is present...)
Section 4 = 25 points	Reader Responses (if you've turned all of these in...)
<b>TOTAL = 100 points</b>	

## Section I: Tally List (Genre Requirements)

<b>Poetry Collection (3)</b>	
Author	Title
<b>Realistic/Historical Fiction (7)</b>	
Author	Title
<b>Traditional Literature (Classics) (5)</b>	
Author	Title
<b>Science Fiction &amp; Fantasy (4)</b>	
Author	Title
<b>Mystery (4)</b>	
Author	Title
<b>Informational, Bio, Autbio, Memoir (4)</b>	

<b>Readers Choice (13)</b>	
<i>Author</i>	<i>Title</i>