

# *English Language Arts Middle School*

## *Summer Packet*



*Salaam Aliakum,*

*“A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies, the man who never reads lives only one life.” George R.R. Martin. “Reading is essential for those who seek to rise above the ordinary.” Jim Rohn*

*“If you don’t like to read, you haven’t found the right book.” J.K.Rowling.*

- *This summer you must read at least two books. You will be quizzed on those two books! Read any two books of your choice. You will receive extra credit if you read more than two books.*
- *You will respond to 8 responses from the reading prompts below. **Completing prompts 8,9,13,14 and 15 are mandatory.***
- *Each response must be at least 4 sentences. Please use the response journals provided to you.*
- *As you read, put a sticky note next to any line, sentence, or section that jumps out to you. Write a brief note so you can remember what you were thinking. This will help you with your responses.*
- *Please feel free to email me for any questions or clarifications.*
- *My email is [sissusie@madinaacademy.org](mailto:sissusie@madinaacademy.org)*
- *Have a splendid summer inshAllah, **and don’t forget to READ, READ and READ!***

# Reader Response Journal Prompts

1. Explain a character's problem and then offer your character advice on how to solve his/her problem.
2. Are the characters realistic? Why or why not? How do they act? Do they face realistic problems?
3. Pick one character and explain why you would/would not like to have as a friend. Why or why not?
4. What narrator point of view is your story written in? Is this a suitable point of view? Would the story be better if it was written from a different narrator point of view?
5. Describe a character that you would like to meet (which doesn't mean that you think you would like the character, but that you think the character would be interesting). Why? Why not? Compare yourself to the character.
6. Describe any irony you find, any symbolism, or any figurative language. How does the literary device you described enhance the story?
7. Describe the major conflict in your story. What side are you on? Why?
8. **Importance of an event:** Select what you consider the most important event in the book. Explain (briefly) what happens? Why you think it is important?
9. **Setting:** What effect does the setting (time, place, social and historical background) have on the character's thoughts, actions, and choices? What would be *your* reaction to having to adapt to the character's environment? Why?
10. Describe the setting's time and place. Create a new setting that you think would be better for the story and describe it.
11. If you were the author, would you have ended the story in a different way? Why? How so?
12. Describe the similarities and differences between the main character (protagonist) and you.
13. **Theme:** Explain a theme—either stated explicitly or implied by events—which is meaningful to you, which you think is the theme of the novel. Explain its importance, why you find it meaningful and why you find it to be the theme of the novel. (Theme is main idea)
14. **Character Comparison:** Compare a character from your book to a character from another work of fiction (novel, play, short story). What are their similarities? What are their differences? Which character do you admire more? Why?
15. **Judgment:** Examine a character's actions, values, behavior, etc. with which you disagree. What is happening? Why is the character thinking/acting this way? What do you see wrong with it? Why? What would you suggest as a preferable response/behavior/value?
16. Do you have any unanswered questions about the story? Explain? What prompted these questions? Did the author purposely create these unanswered questions in your mind? Why?

# Reader Response Journal

<i>Date</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Pages Read</i>	<i>Prompt #</i>	<i>Reader Response</i>

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