**8th Grade Book Analysis**

*Due Date: December 7, 2018*

For your book analysis, you will analyze a specific element of a novel of your choosing. Your book analysis must be at least 5 paragraphs in length, where you will develop, elaborate, and defend a thesis statement using specific textual evidence. You will develop a **thesis statement** that focuses on one of the following:

* Compare and contrast two main characters
* Examine the growth of one main character throughout the novel
* Identify and analyze a major theme in the novel

Your **5 paragraph essay** will consist of:

* Introductory Paragraph
  + Identifies the author and title of work
  + Gives context/background information on the novel and characters for the reader
  + Clearly states thesis statement
* 3 Body Paragraphs
  + Topic sentences
  + Uses textual evidence with MLA in text citations
  + Elaborates and develops your thesis statement
  + Proper transitions/concluding statements
* Conclusion
  + Restates thesis statement
  + Wraps up the main idea of your essay

**Expectations**:

* At least 5 paragraphs
* MLA Format
  + Proper heading on the first page of the document
  + 12 point Times New Roman
  + Double Spaced
* Works Cited in MLA format

Throughout the rest of the semester, we will spend time discussing and practicing the elements you will be required to meet in your analysis in class.

Remember—this is NOT a summary! This analysis goes beyond simply “what happens” in the book. Additionally, you are not to make speculations about the novel in terms of how the novel could have turned out differently if a character acted differently, etc. You MUST be able to defend your thesis with textual evidence and examples from the novel.

If you need additional information, you can find resources and sample essays on the Snowy Range Academy website (Student Life → MS Language Arts Resources).

**Steps to Success**

**Step 1: Choose a book – September 21, 2018**

Select a book you would like to read. This book MUST be approved by Mrs. Bossert by September 21.

**Step 2: Read your book & write your thesis statement – October 26, 2018**

Finish reading your book by October 26. As you read, you may want to practice some of the annotation skills you have learned. We will discuss how to write a thesis statement for a literary analysis in class.

**Step 3: Develop an outline - November 9, 2018**

Your outline must include your (rough) thesis statement, topics for each body paragraph, and at least one example from the text for each body paragraph.

**Step 4: Write your rough draft & participate in writer’s workshop – November 30, 2018**

Once you have developed your outline, you should start writing your rough draft. Make sure you are referring to the rubric. We will participate in a writing workshop on November 30.

**Step 5: Visit the Writing Center – November 12 – December 6, 2018**

A visit to the writing center is mandatory *once* between the time you start writing your rough draft and by the time your final draft is due. You may visit any of the teachers for help (it does not need to be with Mrs. Bossert).

**Step 6: Complete your final draft – December 7, 2018**

Complete with a works cited page.