

## La Salle Freshman Summer Reading

2019-2020 Theme:  
*"Identity"*

### MANDATORY LIST

1. Contender by Robert Lipsyte
2. House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros
3. The Pearl by John Steinbeck

### DIRECTIONS

- All grade nine (Grade 9) students must read the three books from the mandatory list above, before school begins in September.
- Select an additional seven (7) books from the attached list to qualify and receive a certificate as a **LASALLE READER**
- All the novels feature characters which explore the theme: IDENTITY.
- Make notes in the book as you read according to the criteria given below.
- **You will then use your notes to type and submit book reports to your English teacher by the end of the first school week in September.**
- **Hand-written notes will not be accepted or graded.**
- During the year, your teacher may ask you to refer to your summer reading to make connections to the current issues and ideas that are presented in class.
- Most of your books are available from your neighborhood library and/or book stores.



Please make your notes on the attached organizer according to the following criteria:

**Initial Response:**

- What is your first reaction to the book as it pertains to the theme, “Identity”?

**Characters:**

- Who is/ are the main character/s?
- What is the main character’s goal?
- What motivates the main character?
- List four traits of the main character with supporting evidence of his/her actions, words /thoughts.
- Identify a character or characters with whom you share similar traits.
- Why do you have those traits?
- Identify a character/or characters whose traits you admire and would like to have.
- Under what conditions and in what circumstances do you/will you apply those traits?

**Problem / Conflict:**

- What type of conflict exists?
- What/Who are the opposing forces?
- Explain why the conflict has developed.
- How has the character responded to the conflict?
- How is the conflict resolved?

**Important Event:**

- Choose an event from your reading that you think is important.
- Describe the event and discuss why you selected it as important

**Setting:**

- Where and when is the story taking place?
- What details of the setting does the author highlight?
- Does the setting affect the character’s view of himself/herself?
- What do you learn about the character as a result of the setting?

**Good Literature:**

“Good literature can be considered as a book that contains unique characters, intriguing plots, universal themes, excellent language and a good life lesson or moral.”

- Read the above definition carefully and consider whether the book you have just read can be considered “good literature.”
- Explain how your book does or does not fit the definition.