

Rising Juniors – Class of 2025

Summer 2023 Reading Assignment

A Lesson Before Dying by Ernest Gaines

A Parrot in the Oven: Mi Vida by Victor Martinez

Permission to Dream by Chris Gardner

DIRECTIONS:

- All rising eleventh-grade students must read the **three books** listed above before school begins in September.
- Your books are available from your local library and bookstores.
- Each student must type his response for each book to the questions listed on the back of this page.
- The assignment should be typed in Microsoft Word or in a Google Doc.
- Students should list the title and author of the book at the top of the document.
- Students will respond to each category (Characters, Setting, etc.) with a minimum of five sentences.
- Each sentence must begin with a new line. The responses can be bulleted out. They should not be written in paragraph form.
- All responses must be submitted on Google Classroom.
- The code for your Google Classroom is [janqmzz](#)
- Students should also note that during the year, they may be asked to reflect on their summer reading to make connections to the issues and ideas being presented in class.
- Your Google Classroom closes on September 1st, 2023.

Please make your notes according to the following criteria:

- Title and author of book

Characters:

- Identify the main characters.
- What is each character's role?
- What are three major traits of each character?
- What is the evidence that supports each trait?
- What happens to each major character at the end?

Setting:

- Where and when is the story taking place?
- How important is the setting to the character/s, theme, and plot?

Problem / Conflict:

- What are the conflicts? (Conflicts include man versus man, man versus nature, man versus society or man versus self)
- Explain the major conflict by stating where, when, and why it developed.
- How was the conflict resolved?

Quotation:

- Select a quotation or passage that you think is an important part of the book.
- Explain what you think it means and its connection to the story.

Important Event:

- Choose an event from your reading that you think is important.
- Describe the event and discuss its connection to the story.

Literary Devices:

- What literary devices does the author use to convey his/her theme?
- What effect do the devices have on the character/s, setting, plot and theme?
- What effect do the devices have on you as the reader?

Ideas:

- How does this book challenge or support an idea that you already had?
- How has this book changed or confirmed your opinion on human nature? Why?