

CLAS Summer Reading Assignment - 8th Grade

Assignment #1 – Due Date: August 1st, 2010

Email completed assignment to lydia@cultureandlanguage.org by **AUGUST 1ST, 2010**

- **Book – First Part Last** by Angela Johnson
- **Assignment** – Write a book review

Guidelines/Instructions

- Read the book First Part Last by Angela Johnson
- Write a 1 page (4 paragraph) book review that does the following:
 - Has an introduction that includes:
 - A hook to get the readers attention
 - The title and author of the book
 - A brief summary of the book (no more than 3 sentences)
 - 2 body paragraphs:
 - Body paragraph #1 – strengths (what you liked) of the book
 - Topic sentence
 - Supporting sentences that include strengths of the book with relevant supporting details/examples
 - The strengths(what you liked) can include things like, character(s), dialogue/language, setting, themes, etc.
 - Concluding sentence
 - Body paragraph #2 – weaknesses (what you didn't like) of the book
 - Topic sentence
 - Supporting sentences that include weaknesses of the book with relevant supporting details/examples
 - The weaknesses(what you didn't like) can include things like, character(s), dialogue/language, setting, themes, etc.
 - Concluding sentence
 - Concluding paragraph #4
 - Recommendation
 - Explain if you would recommend the book or not.
 - Explain who you would recommend it to if you would.
 - Explain why you would/would not recommend the book.
- Review should be written in MAE(Mainstream American English) and proofread for spelling, capitalization and punctuation.

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Assignment #2 – Due Date: September 2nd, 2010

Email completed assignment to Lydia@cultureandlanguage.org by **SEPTEMBER 2ND, 2010**

- **Book – Makes Me Wanna Holler: A Young Black Man in America** by Nathan McCall
- **Assignment** – Write an essay responding to the following prompt:

Prompt – How do you achieve your goals when there are obstacles in your way?

Guidelines/Instructions

- Read the book: **Makes Me Wanna Holler: A Young Black Man in America** by Nathan McCall
- Write a 5 paragraph essay responding to the prompt above
 - Your essay should have :
 - An introduction that includes:
 - A hook
 - A thesis(your answer to the question/prompt)
 - 3 body paragraphs that explain and support your thesis
 - Each body paragraph should have a topic sentence
 - Each body paragraph should have supporting details and examples
 - Use examples and details **from the book** and your own life to explain and support your thesis.
 - A concluding paragraph:
 - What was learned?
 - Explain the most important message for the reader
 - How does the reader achieve their dreams in spite of obstacles.