

11th Grade Summer Reading

Book: *The Red Badge of Courage* by Stephen Crane

Required Materials: 3 x 5 ruled notecards
Black ink pen
1 rubber band

Assignment: 1 title card, 1 author card, 1 setting card, 5 character cards, 15 plot cards

On every card, put your name on top, left-hand corner. In top, right-hand corner, label card with the words "title, author, character or plot." On character and plot cards, you will also number them. For example, Character 1, Plot 4, etc. In addition, on plot cards, you will also put the page numbers being summarized under the label, such as Plot 3

Pgs. 112-119

Title Card (1): Label correctly at top and then write title of book in bold letters centered in the middle of the card. Be sure to underline the title of books.

Author Card (1): Label correctly at top and then write information about the author on the card.

Setting Card (1): Label correctly at top and then write *when* and *where* the majority of the book takes place.

Character Cards (5): Label correctly at top. Do a character card for the main characters. If a character is only mentioned once or twice, you do not have to do a card on them (this means you cannot do these character cards until **after** you have finished reading the book). On each character card, you will write the character's name and a description of the character. This description could include physical characteristics as well as personality traits.

Plot Cards (15): Label correctly at top. These are the most important cards you will do, and it is extremely important that you do them as I instruct you to. **Do not wait until you have read the entire book to do Plot Cards.** In order to be effective, plot cards **must** be done **as** you read, **not after** you read. So, while you are reading, you need to stop after **about** every 8 pages, (depending on what edition of the book you have, this could vary. You may need to stop every 5 or 6 pages. Just make sure that you end up with 15 plot cards), and on 1 card, **summarize** what you have just read. Remember, summarize means to put it in your own words. **DO NOT** just copy word-for-word from the book. In your own words, as if you were telling a friend about a movie you have just seen, explain what has happened on the pages you are summarizing. Remember, when writing about literature, write in the **present tense**.

Turning Them In: You will put your notecards in order as listed above: title card, author card, setting card, character cards, and then, plot cards. Put one rubber band around them all and turn them in on the **first** full day of school. We will also take a test on the book on the **fourth** full day of school. The benefit of doing notecards, if done correctly, is that if you read your book at the beginning of the summer, you can just read over your notecards before school starts in order to review for your test.

Contact Info.: If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 601-320-1951 or email me at deanna.culbertson@brookhavenacademy.org

Have a safe, fun, and “reading-filled” summer!