

8th Grade Pre-AP English Summer Assignment 2019-2020 School Year

Directions: You are to read 3 texts before school starts in August. These books include The Most Dangerous Game by Richard Connell, Bad Boy: A Memoir by Walter Dean Meyers, and one self-selected book. Questions are included for The Most Dangerous Game and Bad Boy: A Memoir - these **MUST** be answered in complete sentences. The self-selected book must be on or above your last STAR reading level and you are to write a one-page (can be more but not less) book report for your self-selected book. Reading questions and book report are due on the first day of school. **AR tests MUST be taken on all three books before Monday, September 2nd.**

Name _____

Period: _____

The Most Dangerous Game

Directions: Answer each of the following questions IN COMPLETE SENTENCES as you are reading the story. Story can be found here: [The Most Dangerous Game - Richard Connell](#)

- 1. What does Rainsford's conversation with Whitney reveal about Rainsford's attitude toward hunting?**
- 2. How did Rainsford end up on Ship-Trap Island? What is the meaning of the island's name?**
- 3. Why had General Zaroff become bored with hunting, and what did he do to solve the problem?**
- 4. How does Zaroff obtain the species he hunts and how does he justify his hunting this species?**
- 5. Describe Ivan.**
- 6. What does the story suggest is the reason Zaroff looks away from Rainsford's hiding place in the tree even though he knows he is there?**

7. Game can mean both “contest” and “an animal to be hunted”. Use each definition to explain two possible meanings of the title.

8. Evaluate Rainsford’s final act. Do you think he did the right thing? What might you have done in his situation?

Bad Boy: A Memoir

Directions: Answer each of the following questions IN COMPLETE SENTENCES as you are reading the book. The book can be checked out from the school library, public library, or purchased.

- 1. Why is the first chapter of Bad Boy called “Roots”?**
- 2. Who are Herbert and Florence Dean?**
- 3. Who is Jackie Robinson?**
- 4. What does “integrated” mean?**
- 5. Who is George Myers?**
- 6. What did Walter love about reading?**
- 7. Who is Mr. Lasher? Explain how Mr. Lasher changed Walter’s life.**
- 8. Why do you think the book is called Bad Boy?**
- 9. What special award does Mr. Lasher give to Walter?**
- 10. What happens to Uncle Lee? How does Walter’s father react to the situation? How does Walter feel about it?**
- 11. What does S.P. stand for? Why is it significant to Walter?**

12. Why does everyone in the apartment building dislike Melba Valle?

13. How does Walter feel about being recognized as a good student? Why does Walter struggle with his identity, his “two voices in his head”?

14. What is Walter’s family’s financial situation?

15. How was life in the Dean house when Pap came to live with the family?

16. Describe Walter’s experience at Stuyvesant High School.

17. What is the Garment Center? Why did Walter decide to get a job in the Garment Center?

18. What did Walter want to buy with the money he was saving? What did Walter’s mother do with the money?

19. At the beginning of Chapter 12, Walter is sitting with the school guidance counselor. What question does the guidance counselor ask him that confuses him and leaves him searching for an answer?

20. Why does Walter hide his interest in reading, books, and writing?

21. How does Walter’s belief in God change throughout the book?

22. Name the two poets Walter encounters. In Walter’s opinion, what makes one of them a “real writer” and the other not?

23. Where would Walter go instead of going to school?

24. How did Walter imagine his high school graduation day?

25. What question does Dr. Holiday ask Walter that shocks him? How does he answer the question?

26. What did the word “career” mean at Stuyvesant? Why was this hard for Walter?

27. What three (3) things did you need to be considered a powerful male in Harlem?

28. What did Walter consider to be his strengths (i.e. the good things about himself)?

29. What is it that separates (or stands between) Walter and his father?

30. What happens to Walter in 1968 that changes his life forever?