

ACA SUMMER READING

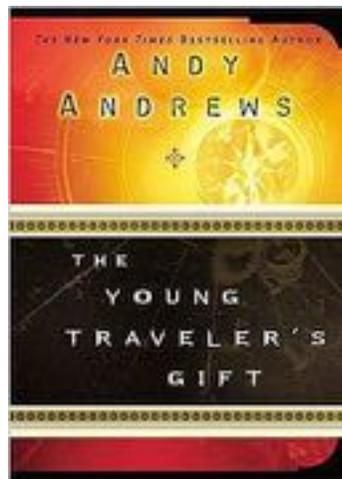
7th-8th Grade

Required Selection

The Young Traveler's Gift by Andy Andrews

A parable is defined as a simple story that is used to illustrate a spiritual lesson (Webster 2013). Rewritten to engage the minds of teens and tweens, *The Young Traveler's Gift* is sure to encourage and enlighten young men and women as they prepare to face the journeys that lie ahead.

You are not required to purchase your own copy so long as you are able to read the full text before the due date. The document includes the assignments you will need to complete alongside the summer reading. We encourage you to start your 7th or 8th grade year off strong!



2-Part Writing Assignment

PART 1: Reading Journal/Bulleted Summaries

Reading journals are an effective way of taking notes while you are reading to help with comprehension and personal reflections of what is read.

- While reading, take detailed, reading notes on each chapter (11 chapters). The notes will be required to be typed in bulleted form for submission (it will be like a summary of the chapter).
- Each chapter should have a minimum of 7-10 bullet points that summarize that chapter in your **own words**. Pay close attention to parts of the main character's journey; specifically, who he meets and what they discuss. In addition, make biblical connections for comparison. How does it remind you of a parable?
- Keep in mind that **these bulleted summaries will be checked for plagiarism** and will be compared against everything on the internet and any other submission from other students that I receive.

PART 2: Personal Reflection

- In a typed one-page essay (300-500 words), you will write a self- reflection on how the main character's journey is comparable to your life's journey (text-to-self).
- Other questions to consider as you type your essay: Look back over the seven decisions for success. Do you think any of these could make a difference in your life? What is something valuable you learned from the book or are taking away to apply in your life? What do you think was the author's purpose in writing this book?

Due Date & Expectations

You must finish reading the book and turn in writing assignments by the second day of school (Wednesday, August 15th). This will be your first test grade for the a quarter. Also, keep in mind this is the first example of your work that I will see this school year. It needs to be a reflection of your work ethic and ability. In essence, you are writing to show me that you read and understood the author's purpose in writing the book.