Wilson Avenue School

Summer Reading Assignment

Students Entering 8th Grade



Required Book: **The Girl in the Locked Room** by Mary Downing Hahn

Required Assignments:

* After reading **The Girl in the Locked Room**, complete the questions below:

**I.Comprehension Questions** – Complete the questions below. Be sure to answer using complete sentences. Cite evidence from the text to support your responses. Please write or type the answers on a separate sheet of paper neatly.

1. Why did Jules and her family move to Oak Hill? Explain.
2. What did Jules see by the stream?
3. What did Jules find in the midden? What is its significance?
4. What did Maisie tell Jules happened at Oak Hill? How did that make Jules feel?
5. What did Jules see at the Taubman Museum?
6. During the picnic, what did Lily’s ghost say to Jules? Why do you think she said that? How did that make Jules feel?
7. What did Maisie and Jules do when they heard the ghost men coming?
8. What happened to Lily’s parents? How do you know?
9. Where did Lily take Jules and Maisie? Why do you think she did took them there?
10. What did **NOT** happen on the last night the horsemen came?

II. **Opinion Essay** – Essays are to be typed or written neatly on loose-leaf paper in order to receive full credit. Use the writing frame to help guide your writing.

Writing Prompt:

Write an opinion essay in which you **tell the theme the book**, **The Girl in the Locked Room**. Use details from the story to support your answer.

In your answer, be sure to:

* Choose **one** of the two lessons
* Explain why this lesson is appropriate to the story
* Use details from the story to support your answer

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| Opinion Essay Framework |
| 1. Introduction Paragraph  * Engaging beginning (Hook) * Transition from the engaging beginning to the thesis (main idea) * Thesis statement (your opinion and your three reasons) |
| 1. Body Paragraph (Reason #1)  * Topic Sentence Statement (Main Idea Statement) * Support sentence * Facts/details * Elaboration/example * Details/closure/transition |
| 1. Body Paragraph (Reason #2)  * Topic Sentence Statement (Main Idea Statement) * Support sentence * Facts/details * Elaboration/example * Details/closure/transition |
| 1. Body Paragraph (Reason #3)  * Topic Sentence Statement (Main Idea Statement) * Support sentence * Facts/details * Elaboration/example * Details/closure/transition |
| 1. Closing Paragraph  * Restate Thesis or Topic Sentences * Restate main details * Leave the reader with a powerful concluding thought |