

Seventh Grade Summer Reading Assignment

For your summer reading, you will choose one of the following books to read and complete its corresponding assignment. Please note the assignments are different. Bring your completed assignments with you to school on the first day!

Book Choices:

1. *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* by Jules Verne: See assignment instructions below.
2. *In the Reign of Terror* by G.A. Henty: See assignment instructions below. **Note to parents and readers – please note that this novel takes place during the French Revolution and does involve some descriptions of the bloody uprisings and mass executions which were hallmarks of the revolution. These are a part of history and will be discussed in class this year; however, I realize that when reading fiction, we can become emotionally attached to characters which can make reading about such events more difficult. “The 2nd of September” is the chapter mainly dealing with these atrocities. The book is written for young/teen readers, but I did want to give you a “heads up” about the subject matter. Be assured, it also is filled with themes of courage and faith, which are important for us today as we live in a fallen and often frightening world.

Please take time to carefully read the assignment for your book choice before beginning your reading! Enjoy your reading and have a wonderful summer! I look forward to seeing you all in August!

Blessings,

Mrs. Thigpen

(BOTH ASSIGNMENTS ARE BELOW)

Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea: Summer Reading

Hello fellow travelers. We are about to embark upon a fantastic, deep-sea adventure and travel around the entire world to various hyperborean (undersea) regions.

Jules Verne, our author, was a French writer who was often called “The Father of Science Fiction.” He wrote this novel in 1869--during an era when scholars were trying to develop the lightbulb, and travel had just been revolutionized by steam-powered ships. To give you an idea of how futuristic this book was: the use of electricity would not be widespread until the 1920’s; cars would not be invented until around 1900, and even the telephone wasn’t invented until 1876.

In *20,000 Leagues*, Verne describes the workings of an advanced, electricity-powered submarine (with accurate, scientific detail)! At the time of his writing, scientists were only just beginning to experiment with underwater travel using crank and steam power. One can see how bright, far-thinking, and creative Verne was. The book includes numerous other scientific inventions that are described in imaginative, yet scientifically accurate detail. Look out for them, and be amazed at Verne’s ingenuity and originality.

Enjoy the book! It starts out slow, but the pace quickens as you go through. There’s a new adventure almost every chapter.

Your Assignment:

1. **Define the nautical terms** on the next page. This will help build a foundation for the descriptions you will encounter in the novel.
2. As you read, **take 1 paragraph (6-8 sentences) of notes to concisely summarize each week’s reading.** Remember to use your grammar and writing skills! Write or type these as you go along. Don’t wait until you have finished the book!!

Helpful Hints:

- ❖ Always read with a dictionary in hand, in case you hit any unfamiliar vocabulary
- ❖ If you encounter a sea creature without a description (this happens in the book sometimes), check out the sea creatures list that is attached, wherein I have shared pictures of some of the ones Verne does not describe in detail, to help give you a fuller picture of the undersea environment.

Nautical Terms:

Define these nautical terms before you start the book.

Aft

Berth

Cables' length

Fathom

Hold (ship)

Hull

Knot (measurement)

League (nautical)

Port (ship)

Quarter-Deck

Starboard (ship)

Soundings: Use of sonar (sound waves) to detect the surface of the ocean floor, or other ships.

Weekly Readings: Whether or not you read on this schedule, you will summarize the chapters as they are grouped below. For example, your first summary will include Chapters 1-5, etc.

June 12-18: Part 1 Ch. 1-5

June 19-25: Ch. 6-10

June 26-July 2: Ch. 11-15

July 3-9: Ch. 16-20

July 17-23: Ch. 21- Part II Ch. 2

July 24-30: Part II Ch. 3-7

July 31-Aug. 6: Ch. 8-12

Aug. 7-13: 13-17

Aug. 14-20: Ch. 18-23

Calculating Latitude and Longitude:

Check out this website for a helpful explanation of latitude and longitude:

<http://www.compassdude.com/latitude-longitude.shtml>

Or...if you are more into audio-visuals, look at this nifty musical version:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Ab-gE8ov4o>

Use this website to input coordinates from the book, and keep track of the journey on your own map if you would like (this is not a part of your assignment, but you may find it fun and instructive):

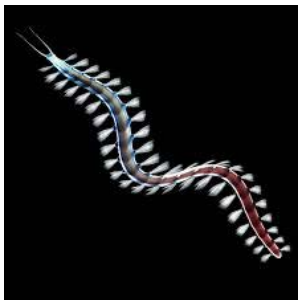
<http://itouchmap.com/latlong.html>

List of Sea Creatures (In alphabetical order)

Alcyonariae



Annelide



Anthia (the orange and purple fish)



Bivalve (giant)



Caranxes



Clio



Crustacea



Echinoderm



Exocoeti



Fiatoles



Flabellinae



Girelles



Gobies



Gorgones



Halcyon



Hammer-fish



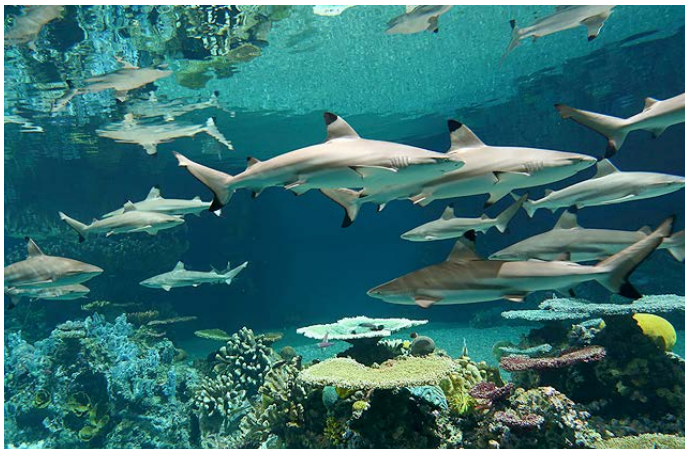
Lorie



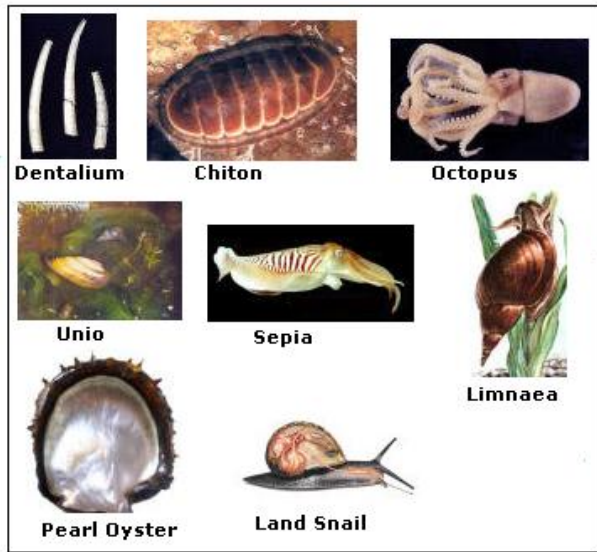
Madrepores



Melanopteron



Mollusk



Oculinae



Ophidia



Parthenopes



Polypi



Pteropods



Seabream



Snipe



Stenorhynchi



Sturgeon



Syngnathes



Virgularia



In The Reign of Terror by G.A Henty

Book Quiz for Seventh Grade Summer Reading: Read *In the Reign of Terror* and complete the following book quiz. Answer in complete sentences.

1. Who is the author of the book, and does he write from a biblical worldview or a non-biblical worldview? In other words, is there an indication that the author views life from a Christian perspective? Give at least two examples to support your conclusion.

2. What is the setting of the story? Include date, span of time (days, months, years) and place.

3. Identify the main characters. Additionally, name the protagonist and antagonist if applicable.

4. Discuss the conflict within the story. Give a good example of at least two of the following categories:

Character vs. character

Character vs. nature

Character vs. self

5. What is the highest point of dramatic intensity, or climax, of the story?

6. How is the conflict resolved?

7. Authors use literary devices to provide imagery. Include examples of simile, metaphor, personification, alliteration, oxymoron, onomatopoeia, pun, irony, etc. Find at least one good example of four of these devices, give your example, identify the type of device, and give the page number on which it was found.

8. On a separate sheet of paper write a well-organized paragraph 10-15 sentences summarizing the plot of your book.

9. Include a list of unfamiliar vocabulary words that you encounter in your reading. Write the word, part of speech, and definition on a separate sheet of paper. (10 minimum)