

Summer Reading Work for 7th Grade Advanced Language Arts

Goodnight, Mr. Tom by Michelle Magorian

Before Reading:

- Obtain a copy of the book (purchase, borrow, download to e-reader) that can be used to read and complete assignments in the summer and brought to school daily throughout the first couple weeks of the school year.
- Explore the following website to gain background information about World War II, the evacuation of children, and what life was like in England during the war:
http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/world_war2/

During Reading:

While reading the novel, think about the following character terminology. Be sure to learn the definitions of each character type, and be able to identify each type of character from the novel.

- **Protagonist:** the main character in the story; the character who has a problem that needs to be resolved
- **Antagonist:** the character (or force of nature) who is in conflict with the protagonist
- **Static Character:** a character whose character traits DO NOT change significantly throughout the course of the story
- **Dynamic Character:** a character whose characters traits DO change significantly throughout the course of the story
- **Flat Character:** a one-sided, often stereotypical, character; we only know a limited amount about the character's life
- **Round Character:** a fully developed character who exhibits many character traits—both faults and virtues; we have a well-rounded view of the character's life.

After Reading:

Write a five-paragraph essay justifying the following thesis statement: *Willie Beech is a dynamic character.*

****The essay should be typed, printed, and brought to Advanced Language Arts class on the first day of school. Be prepared to take a test over the novel within the first week of school.**

Cut out this bookmark and use it as you read to help understand the novel's dialect.

