

Grade 7 Summer Reading

Welcome to Literature 7! For your summer assignment you will choose one of two books to read as well as read any book of your choice. The books you must choose from are *American Born Chinese* by Gene Luen Yang and *Call it Courage* by Armstrong Sperry.

After you have finished your assigned book, you are to write an essay of five paragraphs in response to the following prompt:

American Born Chinese:

In your opinion, what is the overall theme, or “message” of the novel *American Born Chinese*? How does the story of each main character contribute to this theme?

Call It Courage:

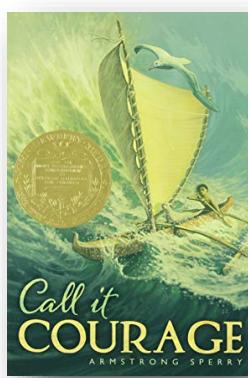
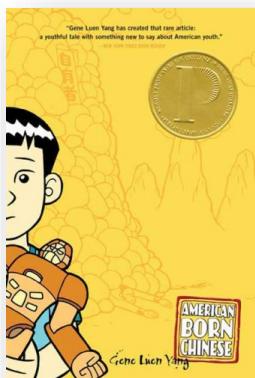
In your opinion, what is the overall theme of the novel *Call It Courage*? How does Mafatu’s journey support the theme?

To write your essay, follow these steps:

- ✓ Write an introductory paragraph summarizing the book as a whole. Conclude with a statement that explains what the theme of the story is.
- ✓ If reading *American Born Chinese*: write one paragraph for each character (Danny, Jin, and the Monkey King) explaining how the individual story relates to the overall theme.
- ✓ If reading *Call it Courage*: choose three lessons or parts of the journey and write one paragraph for each explaining how it relates to the overall theme.
- ✓ Write a conclusion that summarizes your personal thoughts and feelings about the novel.

Now you have to convince me to read your chosen summer reading novel! Write me a persuasive letter using a friendly letter format in an email, and tell me why I need to read your book. Your letter must tell me about your favorite part of the book using descriptive language, but remember no spoilers. Don’t give away the ending! **Your book must be an appropriate 7th grade reading level or higher.** You may email me if you are uncertain about your book choice. You must have chosen a book and emailed me, if you have questions, before Friday, **July 31st.**

Your essay must be typed in MLA format and printed out **before** the first day of school, **August 26th**. The essay will be collected during the period during which we meet for Literature class on the first day of school. Your email must be sent on one of the following days: Monday 8/24, Tuesday 8/25 or Wednesday 8/26. Early and late emails will not be accepted.



Email Guidelines

Your email must contain the following in order to receive full credit for this assignment:

- Completed Subject Line
- Salutations at the beginning and end of the email which include my name and your full name
- Italicized book title
- Author's name
- 2 paragraphs describing the book and your favorite scene that have been proofread for spelling and grammar

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT - PERSUASIVE LETTER - MESSAGE (HTML)

FILE MESSAGE INSERT OPTIONS FORMAT TEXT REVIEW ACROBAT

Paste Basic Text

To... Laura Cannon;
Cc...
Subject Summer Reading Assignment - Persuasive Letter **Completed subject line**

Dear Mrs. Cannon, **Opening salutation**

I think you should read A Wrinkle in Time by Madeline L'Engle because it is a wonderfully suspenseful story with a great adventure! **italicized title and full author name**

You should write 1-2 paragraphs describing your story. Use descriptive language, that means describe your favorite scene using adjectives and adverbs. Be careful not to plagiarize though! If you use the same words as the author you must put it in quotations, then put the page numbers in parentheses (98) so I can look up your reference later on.

Sincerely, **Closing salutation**

Laura Cannon|

Note: This sample does NOT contain 2 complete paragraphs, it is only a sample.

Laura Cannon Independence Day (Observed)