

**Queens Gateway to Health Sciences Secondary School  
Current Grade 7  
Summer Reading Assignment**

You are required to read the following books during the summer:

1. *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd
2. *Black Like Me* by John Howard Griffin
3. *Rash* by Pete Hautman

The following assignments pertain to *The Secret Life of Bees* and *Rash*. You must complete both assignments for **each** of the books. You will be tested on *Black Like Me* when you return.

**I. Vocabulary-** Choose 10 vocabulary words from each book. In a chart do include the following: (1) List Word (2) Part of Speech (3) Definition (4) Quote/line where word is used in novel (include page number) (5) Original Sentence

Ex.

Word	Part of speech	Definition	Quote/Line	Original Sentence
Laugh	Verb	To show emotion (as mirth, joy, or scorn) with a chuckle or explosive vocal sound	A very skeptical public <i>laughed</i> at our early efforts (29)	Howard <i>laughed</i> at his own clumsiness

**II. Quote Assignment :** As you read *The Secret Life of Bees* and *Rash* collect quotes and passages from the entire novel using the following procedure:

Use sticky notes to mark passages as you read. Every time you encounter an important, dramatic, surprising, or disturbing passage, mark it with a sticky note (You may want to use one of those wonderful highlighter/flag pens). Only when you have completed each entire novel will you evaluate these passages and weed out the least important ones. When you are done reading each novel you will select **at least 10 significant passages** from throughout each book. (**The passages must be at least three sentences in length.**) Copy the passages down (**Don't forget page numbers!**) and then continue as follows:

You will do the following steps for 9 of the 10 quotes:

1. **Response paragraph 1 (must complete one for each quote)** is a well-written paragraph of at least

100-150 words explaining how the passage “fits” into the novel (Quotes should either focus on theme, setting or conflict). Discuss the importance of the passage to the book’s message or theme.

Example:

“Rage was in his voice, and Adam felt the creeping fear; but he knew also that he had a moment left. Too many times he had seen the destructive machine that chopped down anything standing in the way. Rage came first and then a coldness, a possession; noncommittal eyes and a pleased smile and no voice at all, only a whisper...”(Conflict) (29)

This passage is crucial because it develops not only the character of Charles and Adam, but theme of the novel as well. Charles endeavored to buy his father’s admiration whereas Adam offered a more sentimental present. This simple example provides so much about each of their characters. Charles so despised his rejection that he laid his anger and frustration on Adam, seeking a sort of revenge. A dread of rejection . . .

2. **For the final passage** (Quote 9), choose the passage that you would consider the “Quote of the Book.” This quote should capture the true meaning of the novel for the reader. In a well-written paragraph of at least 150-200 words, explain how this passage is the perfect quote for the book. If this book was destroyed, why should this be the one quote that should survive?

**Important points for typing this project:**

- All aspects of this assignment must be typed. Single space the passage/quote and double space your paragraphs.
- Passages/quotes must be at least three sentences long. Your collection of passages should include many that are longer than three sentences.
- Begin each quoted passage on a new page.
- All passages must be in quotation marks—and be sure to copy the passage exactly as it appears in the novel. Do not use ellipses (. . .).
- All passages must include the page number from which they are taken. Cite the page numbers in parenthesis, like this: (145). You don’ t need any other information.
- Your paragraphs need to be of quality and have depth. A paragraph of two or three sentences is not acceptable. You need 100-150 words.
- You need a cover page with your name, the title of the novel, the author, the publisher, the place of publication, and the date of publication (use correct MLA format).