

7th Grade 2021 Summer Reading Assignment

Incoming 7th grade students have two required Reading assignments:

1. Read the short story “Amigo Brothers” by Piri Thomas. (The full-text version of this story can be easily found online and downloaded.) Complete the questions below based on the story. These questions will be turned in for a grade on the first day of school. Students will take a test on “Amigo Brothers” during the first week of school.
2. Read any Accelerated Reader book of your choice and be prepared to take the AR test on it during the first full week of school. Completing the AR test by the end of the first full week of school will count as a homework grade. Your book should be one that interests you, is on your level, and that you have not read before.

Questions for “Amigo Brothers”

Answer the following discussion questions. Make sure that you answer all parts of the question and that your answers are in complete sentences. (It is recommended that you type and save a copy of your answers as we will be revising them during the first week of school.)

1. Why is this particular fight so important to Felix and Antonio?
2. How did the story end? Why do you think the author chose to end the story this way? What were your opinions of the ending?
3. Reread the first paragraph of “Amigo Brothers.” Is the narrator part of the action? Whose thoughts and feelings does the narrator tell about? From what point-of-view is the story written?
4. Describe how the two boys fight during the boxing match. What strengths does each boy demonstrate?
5. How can you tell that Felix and Antonio respect each other? Give one example from the story to support your answer.
6. Felix draws an analogy, a point-by-point comparison, between *The Champion* and his upcoming fight with Antonio. How does this analogy help Felix deal with his internal conflict?
7. What effect does the boxing competition have on Felix and Antonio’s relationship? Support your answer with examples from the story.
8. How do Felix and Antonio’s fighting styles differ? What does this tell you about each boy?
9. How do you think the community will regard Felix and Antonio after the fight? Why?
10. In your opinion, what if one of the boys had won the match by a knockout? Do you think this would have affected the friendship? Why or why not?
11. Explain how you would compare your ideas about friendship and competition with those expressed in the story.
12. What does the following quote say about how serious the boys are about the championship bout and maintaining their friendship? “After the fight we can get it together again like nothing ever happened.”
13. What does the following quote say about the boys’ passion for boxing? “We gotta be like two heavy strangers that want the same thing and only one can have it. You understand, don’t cha?”
14. Tell what Felix and Antonio value the most when they compete. Provide examples from the story to support your answer.
15. Explain how the title fits the theme of the story. Give examples from the story to support your answer.