

The Pact: Three Young Men Make a Promise and Fulfill a Dream
Drs. Sampson Davis, George Jenkins, Rameck Hunt, and Lisa Frazier Page

Dear Rising 9th grade scholars,

During the summer, you will be responsible for reading, engaging in, and completing an assignment for The Pact: Three Young Men Make a Promise and Fulfill a Dream, a nonfiction novel about three African-American kids from the inner city of Newark, New Jersey, who made a pact to support each other as they rose from an environment of poverty, crime, and drugs and went on to become successful doctors.

In addition to the summer reading assignment, students will be given a reading test during the first week of school, and teachers may assign additional activities such as group discussions, analysis, vocabulary development, etc., as determined by the teacher throughout the semester.

Our purpose for the Summer Reading assignment is to encourage students to enjoy quality literature and to continue developing their independent reading skills while they are home during the summer.

If you have any questions, you may contact Alexandria Elliott, Freshman Academy Facilitator by phone at 980-343-6060 x4020528 or by email at alexandria1.elliott@cms.k12.nc.us. For online discussions about the book, **beginning in July**, visit the West Charlotte High School website, click on the Freshman Academy tab, and click on the Summer Reading tab.

Sincerely,
Freshman Academy team

Summer Reading Assignment

Format:

- Neatly type or handwrite your responses in complete sentences.
- Proofread your responses. Check for spelling, missing words, incomplete sentences.
- If typed, your work must be in Times New Roman, 12pt.
- Be sure to include your first and last name on your work.
- You may submit work via email or delivery throughout the summer or turn it in during the first week of school.

Summary – no more than five sentences.

- What happened, to whom, where, when, how, why?

Characterization

- Describe the way you feel about a particular character:
- Could you identify with the character and some of his/her problems/struggles?
- Do you know anyone who is like this person in the book?
- Who has similar “issues”? How did you see the character change throughout the course of the novel?
- Does his/her characterization seem “believable” to you? Why or why not? Give some specific details.

Personal Response

Quote at least 5 selections from the text which you found especially thought-provoking. Explain.

Vocabulary

Generate a list of 20 words that you come across while reading the book.

Choose 3 of the 5 topics below and respond:

The way you feel about the language of the book: Was it easy to read? Challenging? If challenging, did it become more “readable” as you progressed through the book? Was there a particular dialect used? Were some sections of the book particularly descriptive? Give examples. Did the author sometimes make you feel as if you were “right there” with the characters?

The way you feel about the setting: Was the specific setting (time/ place/ etc.) necessary for the story to be effective/believable? Why is this so? Could the same story have taken place in a different part of the country/world? What might have been the effect if it had? Explain.

The way you feel about any main ideas/themes presented in the book: What message is the author trying to get across? How does he/she do this? Do you agree with his/her message?

Do you think the author does a good job of causing the reader to think about specific issues/problems, etc.? Does the book cause you to “think”? What about? Does your view on any subject(s) change at all as a result of reading the book? Explain.

For a nonfiction book, describe some of the main ideas presented. What did you learn and how? How will this influence your life? Does it seem like an accurate/realistic situation or suggestion? Did the book inspire you? Inform you? Change you? Explain how. Does the book cause you to “think”? About what?