

English 7 Reading Portfolio

“So, what do I have to read?”



Besides reading at least **one (1) book** of your choice each **five weeks**, I will also ask you to assemble a “**Reading Portfolio**” which shows evidence that you've been an active, growing reader in other areas-- *still of your choice*. Be unique---find poems, articles, and pictures that really “speak” to you, your interests, your goals--your dreams.

*By the end of **five weeks**, you should have **read** the following:*

1) At least **two (2) nonfiction articles** of different subjects/topics.

These should be selected from my **online digital anthology**, from **newspapers**, or from **magazines** at home. All readings must be placed in your portfolio. Make copies of them, cut them out, or print them from the web.

*For example, one student might find **3 article(s)** about the following:*

- a) a college player being "picked up" by a professional basketball team.
- b) a 12 year old boy having a successful heart transplant
- c) a new dirt bike that will be out on the market this summer (extra credit)

2) At least **one (1) poem** of your choice

You may select poems from the **library**, a **collection at home**, or from my **online digital anthology**. They should be at least 10 lines long and be of a topic suitable for middle school. The "Chicken Soup" books, for instance, are a great place to find poems which have a lot of meaning and topics that interest young teens.

3) At least **one (1) photo** of an important **event, place**, or **person(s)**-- that's right, I would like you to **read** a photo.

You'll need a photo from one of the **daily photo sites** or from any place on the web. You may also use **magazines** and **newspapers**. Its subject matter should provide you with a **theme** you can write a lengthy paragraph about. No personal photos for this assignment, please.

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“So, what do I have to write ?”



Step 1: A **Summary** of each Piece

- Write **one paragraph** that **summarizes** the article you've read--*beginning, middle and end*. (You can entitle it "Summary")

Step 2: A **Personal Response** for each Piece

- Write **one lengthy paragraph** (1/2 page or more) for each *article, poem, and photo* that shows how you **connect** to the piece. Give the paragraph an appropriate **title**. Here are some ways of connecting:

- ∞ *What does it make me think about?*
- ∞ *Why do I like the piece?*
- ∞ *Why am I curious about or interested in the subject?*
- ∞ *Does it remind me of something?*
- ∞ *Why is it memorable, funny, unique, interesting or important?*
- ∞ *What themes come out of this piece and why?*
- ∞ *What passages, parts, or lines in the piece really stand out and why?*

- is **word-processed** (double space, 12 point font)
- is **organized** into a **well written** paragraph that includes a **topic sentence**, **transition words** as well as a **concluding** (wrap-up) **sentence**.
- includes supporting **details, reasons, or examples** from the text.
- is **proofread**.

A **personalized portfolio folder** will be kept in the classroom or you may keep it. As you locate and read your **two (2) articles, one (1) poem, and one (1) photo**, place them in the folder even if you haven't written anything about them yet. Upon writing your paragraphs, **fasten them** to the appropriate article, poem or photo.

When you're finished with the portfolio, you should have eight (8) total paragraphs--
Four (4) summaries and Four (4) Personal Responses.