

Welcome to Ascension Episcopal School 5th Grade English!

Once again, it is time to choose summer reading books in anticipation of the new school year. As fifth graders, you will read **three, free-choice, middle school appropriate fiction books**. The *Cover to Cover List*, which is available from the AES website-www.aesgators.org, provides suggested reading from classic to contemporary. However, you do not have to select a book from the *Cover to Cover List*.

For each book, you will write a **précis**. The word **précis** means summary; therefore, you will be composing summaries of your three novels. The key to writing a good précis is to stay concise, organized, and specific in your word choice. Because a précis is only seven sentences long, you must follow a structured format to complete it correctly. You will review and apply the following terms in your précis: **setting, character, plot, conflict, resolution, and opinion**. You can find the definitions for the terms below.

Setting: the time and place in which events in a story occur.

Character: a person, animal, or natural force in a literary work.

Plot: the sequence of events or actions in a story.

Conflict: the problem(s) in the story.

Resolution: outcome of the story.

Opinion: Give your opinion about the novel.

Format for the Précis

Top line: Title of novel and author (Remember to underline or italicize book titles.)

Skip a line. (You must write the précis in single-spaced paragraph form. Indent the first sentence. If you are handwriting, use blue or black ink. If you are typing it, use a standard font size and type.)

1st Sentence: Discuss the setting.

2nd Sentence: Tell about the main character/characters.

3rd Sentence: Discuss the main conflict.

4th Sentence: Discuss the plot.

5th Sentence: Discuss more of the plot.

6th Sentence: Tell about the resolution of the story.

7th sentence: Give your opinion about the novel.

The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis

The story takes place in the English countryside during WWII. The main characters are sibling Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy Pevensie. The conflict begins when the children discover the magical land of Narnia and encounter an evil White Witch who has cast a spell on the land and has taken away Christmas. Edmund betrays his siblings and must forfeit his life to the White Witch. In turn, the White Witch murders Aslan, the lion who represents all good things and who sacrificed his own life so that Edmund can live. The story ends with Aslan coming back to life and defeating the White Witch and her force. I enjoyed this novel because I love to read about imaginary places.

Précis paragraphs may be submitted in three ways:

- a. Hand-written in blue or black ink; write on the fronts of pages only; staple the pages together. Turn in the first day of school.
- b. Typed (by YOU), staple the pages together. Turn in the first day of school.
- c. **Submitted online** (see attached directions). Two bonus points are awarded for each online submission on or before July 31!

GUMS (Grammar, Usage, Mechanics and Spelling) will count, so please do your best.

Please feel free to contact me with questions. Happy reading and writing!

Leslie Doucet
337-501-1905
ldoucet@aesgators.com

5th Grade Summer Reading
Online Submission
Directions

1. Go to the 5th Grade webpage~
<http://www.myteacherpages.com/webpages/FifthGrade>
If you have trouble finding it, go to www.myteacherpages.com.
Search for “Fifth Grade.”
2. Click on **My Message Board** in the left hand column.
3. Click on **Summer Reading Précis**. Click on **Post Précis Here**. The password is **aes5**. Click **Post Reply**. When prompted, enter your name, your e-mail address, and finally your précis entry. Follow the assigned format. Be sure to click **SAVE**.

You may respond to other students’ entries, but thoughts and ideas should be your own. It is appropriate to tactfully disagree or positively agree with classmates.