

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

**Marlene Zamora** English Department Chair  
mzamora@dadeschools.net

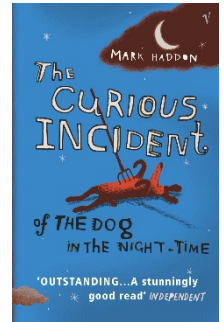
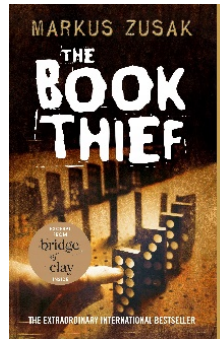
Congratulations on your acceptance to DASH! You are now a PROUD PHANTOM! Please look over the summer reading requirements below. It is imperative that you complete this summer reading assignment, which will serve as your first language arts grades in the quarter.

## All 9<sup>th</sup> grade students must read:

*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon & *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak

**The Task:** Read both *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon

and *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak



After reading both selections, choose one selection to complete the assignment described below (You must complete both parts).

## English 1 – ALL Students: Illustration and 350-word Essay

### Part I:

#### **Illustration**

Choose a **scene** you feel is central to the development of the story *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* **OR** *The Book Thief*. Illustrate the **scene** on a 11x14 stock sheet of heavy white paper, cardstock or construction paper. Include one important **symbol** present in *Book Thief* **OR** *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*.

A **symbol** is an object, action, or event that represents something or that creates a range of associations beyond itself. In literary works, a symbol can express an idea, clarify meaning, or enlarge literal meaning.

### **Illustration Requirements:**

11x14 stock sheet of heavy white paper, cardstock, or construction paper. On upper right corner of paper, single spaced: Name of student, period, title of novel, and author of novel.

### **Part II:**

#### **Essay**

Respond to the following question in a 350-word essay.

**What is occurring in the scene? Why do you feel it is important to the development of the story?**

Be sure to answer the following questions in your synopsis of the scene:

- Who is involved?
- What is happening?
- Why is the scene important to the overall telling of the story?
- How does the scene move the story forward (This scene is important to the plot because...)?

Focus on the key **symbol** present in your drawing and explain what it represents. In your essay, analyze how that symbol functions in the novel and what it reveals about the characters or theme(s) of the novel as a whole.

A **theme** is an underlying message about life or human nature that a writer wants the reader to understand. **Do NOT summarize the plot.** Include **word count** at end of your essay.

### **Essay Requirements:**

Format:

Typed, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman, 1" margins.

On upper right corner of paper, single spaced: Name of student, period, title of novel, and author of novel.

Please save your typed essay files and bring a hard copy of the final essay and illustrations the first week of school. Note, you will be assessed on novel content. If you have any questions regarding your summer assignments, please feel free to contact me via email.