

Summer Reading Assignment 2017  
English Grade 9  
*The Wednesday Wars* by Gary D. Schmidt  
Contact- Mrs. Bentley - ebentley@providencehigh.net

*The Wednesday Wars* is a wonderfully witty and compelling story about a teenage boy's mishaps and adventures over the course of the 1967–68 school year in Long Island, New York.

Meet Holling Hoodhood, a seventh-grader at Camillo Junior High, who must spend Wednesday afternoons with his teacher, Mrs. Baker, while the rest of the class has religious instruction. Mrs. Baker doesn't like Holling—he's sure of it. Why else would she make him read the plays of William Shakespeare outside class? But everyone has bigger things to worry about, like Vietnam. His father wants Holling and his sister to be on their best behavior: the success of his business depends on it. But how can Holling stay out of trouble when he has so much to contend with? A bully demanding cream puffs; angry rats; and a baseball hero signing autographs the very same night Holling has to appear in a play in yellow tights! As fate sneaks up on him again and again, Holling finds Motivation—the Big M—in the most unexpected places and musters up the courage to embrace his destiny, in spite of himself.

### **Important Information**

- The summer reading assignment is due on the first day of class. All assignments must be typed, printed, and stapled together in one packet.
- Be prepared for an in-class written assignment to be assigned on the first day of class.

### **Directions for Double-Entry Logs**

**All logs must be TYPED and PRINTED for our first class meeting.**

#### **Step 1:**

Divide your paper in half, long-wise. Put your name and the date at the top left of your paper.

#### **Step 2:**

Set up the log as follows:

#### ON THE LEFT:

Pull out one passage from each chapter. Write the passage out and put quotations around it. Write the chapter name and the page number next to the quotation. If the passage is too long write out the first sentence or two, then put in ellipsis (...), then the last sentence or two. **You must include the page number(s) of your chosen passage.**

#### **Step 3:**

ON THE RIGHT:

Respond to each passage you pulled out. Write out your questions, comments, or inferences. Say why the passage is strange or interesting. DO NOT SIMPLY SUMMARIZE THE PASSAGE. **You will not receive credit for summaries.** You also should not simply write, “I do not understand what this says.” Each response must be at least one full paragraph. Put some space in between each passage so they can be distinguished from one another.

I am looking for your interaction with the reading.

**Some ideas you can use for your responses on the right side of the paper:**

1. What is interesting about this passage?
2. What does the passage tell us about the character’s motivations?
3. Is there symbolism in the passage? Explain it.
4. Does the reading remind you of another book you have read or a movie you have seen? Explain
5. How does the passage move you emotionally?
6. What do you think will happen next?
7. What is strange about this passage?
8. Does the passage reflect the time period or literary time period of the novel?
9. Does the passage give us any evidence for any theme(s) you see in the novel?
10. Or: Come up with your own response! You could make a real-life connection to the passage!

**IMPORTANT:** You do not have to answer all of the above questions! Simply choose one question (or create your own) and type your one-paragraph response.

**(Example of log set-up)**

John Brown

July 15, 2015

<b>Passages (including chapter and page #)</b>	<b>Response to passages</b>
“ .....” – September, pg. 35	This is where you will write out your questions, comments, real-life connections, or inferences. Summaries of the chapters will not receive credit! Please reference page two of this document for ideas. <u>Each response should be one full paragraph.</u>
“ .....” – October, pg. 70	This is where you will write out your questions, comments, real-life connections, or inferences. Summaries of the chapters will not receive credit! Please reference page two of this document for ideas. <u>Each response should be one full paragraph.</u>