

Grade 8 Summer Reading Assignment

Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds is the name of the book.

There are 2 extra-credit activities you can select. You can just read the book and take the test in September (Selection A) and/or choose to also do B1 or B2. Selection. If you choose A and a B you get more than double the extra points and if you choose A only you will get extra points upon passing the test with a 70%.

A. Upon return in September, those who chose to read the book will have to take a test. You should all do well on this test.

B1. Write the 5 paragraph essay below. This is good for your future progress. Follow the instructions below.

OR

B.

B2. Answer the 15 open ended questions.

Note: Students who successfully complete two activities will earn 2+ times the extra-credit.

Here are the Handouts:

“Long Way Down” 5 Paragraph Essay Question (B1)

Name: **Class:** **Date:**

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B1: Long Way Down 5 Paragraph Essay

Essay Prompt

Long Way Down thoroughly explores the theme of revenge and the cycle of violence. Will is seeking revenge for his brother Shawn's murder. In the elevator, he learns of the trail of revenge that has led up to this elevator ride's moment. As Will takes the elevator down 7 floors, a dead person enters on each floor, someone connected to him. This ride down on the elevator has allowed Will to second guess his plan to kill Carlson Riggs, the man he believes killed his brother Shaun. Collectively, these ghosts force Will to question the morality of his plan of revenge.

In a 5 paragraph essay you need to tell using evidence from the story how 3 of the characters on the elevator ride changed Will's mind to get revenge. There are a total of 3 body paragraphs, one body paragraph for each character

"Long Way Down" Open Ended Questions (B2)

Name: Class: Date

B2:15 Open Ended Questions

You need to answer any 10 of these questions. Answers go underneath the questions. Please choose a different color for your answers than purple.

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Open Ended Questions

1. What are "The Rules"? What do you think Will means when he writes: "They weren't meant to be broken./They were meant for the broken/to follow."

2. When Shawn turned eighteen, what did his mother worry about? What do you think she meant in saying that when Shawn walked in the nighttime, he needed to make sure that the nighttime wasn't walking in him? Do you think Shawn tried to heed his mother's warning?

Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds Websites and a youtube read at the end

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Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds: The Novel Details

This website offers you the book in pdf format for free.

Long Way Down by Jason Reynolds

<https://cpb-us-e1.wpmucdn.com> › files › 2020/03

About the Book

Will has known about the rules ever since his childhood friend was killed on the playground, and he's followed the first two: no crying, and no snitching. When his older brother, Shawn, is shot and killed while walking home from the store, Will knows he is expected to follow the final rule and avenge his brother's death. He knows where Shawn keeps his gun, and he thinks he knows who the shooter is: a member of a rival gang named Riggs. Even if Will has never used a gun—never even held a gun before—rules are rules. But in the elevator on the way down to meet Riggs, Will encounters family and friends who died playing by the rules, and now Will has to decide what he is going to do when the elevator reaches its final stop.

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