



Ninth Grade Summer Reading Guidelines

For summer reading, ninth graders will read *Cold Sassy Tree* by Olive Ann Burns (ISBN-10: 0-618-91971-6). You are expected to read this novel carefully without using Internet summaries or any sources other than the actual book (including movies).

When reading your novel, you may create notes to help you study for the test. Some suggestions for notes include a brief summary of chapters; for example, use only 2 or 3 well-written sentences to tell what happens in that particular chapter. Writing these chapter summaries is an opportunity to practice concise prose. You may also consider keeping a list of characters. As you read the book, write brief phrases to identify important characters and add to this list as you progress. This work has been chosen because it exhibits the literary theme of **coming of age** or **bildungsroman**. Make sure you are familiar with the meaning of this theme and can give examples as to how *Cold Sassy Tree* qualifies as a coming of age text. *You will not be able to use these notes on the test, but they will serve as a valuable study guide.*

You will take a test, which will include an essay portion, on *Cold Sassy Tree* on **Tuesday, August 10, 2021.**

Remember that the Compliance Form must be signed and returned on August 10.