

## ELA GR 6-8: Distance Learning - Student Choice Activities

*(option for students with or without online access)*

### Daily Writing Journal

Each day, write a brief journal entry. Write about a personal experience or a current event from today. Your journal entry should respond to the following guiding questions/statements:

- Describe what happened.
- How did this experience or event make you and/or others feel? How did you and/or others react?

### Daily Reading Log

You will have to read a piece of text each day. Options include, but are not limited to an independent reading book, magazine, play, informational brochure or article, transcript of a video, subject-area textbook, newspaper, poem, etc. Divide a paper into three columns and use it to document the following ideas below.

1. Select and read the text for the day for 20-30 minutes..
2. Record the date, title and author/organization.
3. Note what type of text it is. (Example: article, textbook, poem)
4. Evaluate the difficulty of the text and rate it 1(easy)-4 (difficult).

### ELA Daily Menu Choice

Each day, complete one of the following menu choices. After the selected task has been completed, record the date in the space provided. The majority of the tasks require that you read one of the **StudySync texts**.

Date	Activity/Task	Date	Activity/Task
	<b>Word Parts</b> List 15 words from the text that contain prefixes, suffixes and/or Greek or Latin roots. Using a pen or thin marker, circle the different word parts and label what type of word part it is.		<b>Conflict</b> In a brief paragraph, explain the conflict of the text. Identify the two forces who are working against each other and explain what it is that each of the sides would like to accomplish.
	<b>Asking Questions</b> Select a character or individual you would like to interview from the text. List seven questions that you would like to ask this person in order to learn more about them and/or an event associated with them. Refrain from yes/no questions.		<b>Making Connections</b> Read the text. Make three connections: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To yourself</li> <li>2. To the world</li> <li>3. To another text</li> </ol> Explain your connections.
	<b>Author's Purpose and Point of View</b> After reading an informational text piece. On paper, determine what is the author's purpose for the writing and provide a brief description of his/her viewpoint or perspective on the topic.		<b>Cause and Effect</b> Create a two column document. Label one side "cause" and the other "effect." Find relationships between the people and events in a text. Demonstrate your understanding by generating three sets of cause and effect statements.
	<b>Visualization</b> Visualize the setting (time/place) of the text. Label a blank piece of paper with the title of the book or article. Using details from the text, illustrate the setting of the text.		<b>Vocabulary and Summarizing</b> Visit <a href="http://www.wonderopolis.org">www.wonderopolis.org</a> and read the "Wonder of the Day." Write an explanatory paragraph that responds to the Wonder Question using several of the wonder words.
	<b>Asking and Answering Questions</b>		<b>Five-Word Summary</b>

	<p>Read a text and create <u>two low level</u> questions which begin with <u>who/what/where/when</u> and provide the correct response to the question. Then create <u>two high level</u> questions that begin with <u>why or how</u> and provide appropriate responses in complete sentences.</p>		<p>Select a current events piece to read. Think of five main words to be used in summarizing the news article/feature. List the five words on your paper. Use the words to describe the event to an adult family member.</p>
	<p><b>Chronological Order</b> Create a comic strip with five frames each representing the five major events in the text. Illustrate each event and write 1-2 sentences describing what is happening in the scene.</p>		<p><b>Figurative Language</b> Read the text. Using a three-column chart, identify three examples of figurative language (simile, metaphor, alliteration, hyperbole, personification). Copy the phrase or statement from the text in the first column, state the type of figurative language in the second column and explain its meaning in the last.</p>
	<p><b>Synonyms</b> List 5 verbs and 5 adjectives from your text. Next to each listed word, write at least one synonym for that word. Refer to a thesaurus if needed.</p>		<p><b>Predicting</b> <u>Before reading</u> the entire text, look at the title, any subheadings, images, sidebars, charts or tables and write three predictions you make about what the text will be about.</p>
	<p><b>Traits</b> Select a character/individual from the text to analyze. Make a two-column chart. On the left side, identify a character trait that describes the person. On the right side, provide evidence from the text that supports the trait identified on the left. Select at least two traits with corresponding evidence.</p>		<p><b>Images and Illustrations</b> Before you read the text, closely analyze an image/illustration that accompanies a text. Compose five statements that begin with, "I notice..." and three statements beginning with "I wonder..." Then read the text to determine if your statements are confirmed and/or answered.</p>