

Summer Assignment ~ Writing
Student Entering 8th Grade



Writing Extension Projects

Essential Question: How do your teenage years prepare you for adulthood?

Directions: Now that you have completed your ten journal entries, select one extension project from the list below. These extension projects are designed to explore and respond to the essential question. They should connect to your personal experiences and reflections, not to the novel you read.

Extension Options	Extension Description	Extension Task
Extension Option #1 - Connect to the Essential Question	Answer the unit's essential question: How do your teenage years prepare you for adulthood?	Answer the unit question in a minimum of 3 well-developed paragraphs. Reflect on your middle school experience so far and how it has helped prepare you for the future, specifically the 8th grade. Include at least one specific

		example of a life lesson you've learned during this time and explain how it has helped you grow or mature.
Extension Option #2 - Advice to...Yourself!	<p>What advice would you give to your former 6th-grade self? What advice do you think you would have most benefited from as you head into your 8th-grade year?</p>	<p>In a well-developed response of 3 paragraphs, write about the advice you would give your former 6th-grade self.</p> <p>Share 3–5 pieces of advice, and for each one, explain why it would have been helpful and how it could have better prepared you for middle school.</p> <p>Use specific examples from your own experiences to support your advice.</p> <p>This is your chance to show how much you’ve grown and what you’ve learned along the way.</p>
Extension Option #3 - Family Member Interview	<p>Somebody once said “Family is a blessing. Just keep telling yourself that when you get irritated by something a family member says.”</p> <p>While they may (or may not) be true, our family members, especially our “older” ones, can also share meaningful insight. Select a family member to interview to gain a new perspective on how their teenage years prepared them for adulthood.</p>	<p>Create 3-5 interview questions based on the unit essential question, interview your family member, and record their answers. Then, write 3 paragraphs capturing the main points from your interview and how your family member’s</p>

		answers connect to the guiding question.
Extension Option #4 - The Write Goals	<p>Goal setting helps guide your focus and energy and also helps you organize your time and resources to achieve your goals. When we create goals, it is essential to make them realistic and attainable. Can you expect to run a marathon without even running a mile? With the arrival of a new school year, you are presented with an opportunity to set goals and create a plan to achieve them.</p>	<p>In a well-developed response of 3 paragraphs, describe 3–5 realistic goals you have for yourself.</p> <p>These goals can be academic, social, extracurricular, or personal.</p> <p>For each goal, explain why it's important to you and how you plan to achieve it.</p> <p>Be specific and honest. This reflection should help you focus on the kind of student and person you want to be during your final year of middle school.</p>
Extension Option #5 - Song Lyrics That Are “Write” On	<p>Music can teach us about ourselves and the world around us. Sometimes when the lines of reality are blurred, music can help us see clearly.</p>	<p>Choose a song—past or present—that has had a meaningful impact on you. In a well-developed response of at least three paragraphs, explain how the lyrics have helped you better understand yourself, others, or the world around you. Include at least one or two specific lines from the song to support your explanation.</p>

		<p>In your writing, discuss why this song matters to you personally. How do its message, tone, or theme relate to experiences you've had during your teenage years? What emotions or thoughts does the song bring out in you?</p> <p>Finally, connect the song's message to the unit's essential question: How do your teenage years prepare you for adulthood? Reflect on how this music has helped shape your mindset, taught you a life lesson, or influenced how you approach challenges or relationships as you grow up.</p>
<p>Extension Option #6 -</p> <p>Social Media</p>	<p>Social Media plays a crucial role in connecting people and developing relationships, yet is that role positive or negative?</p> <p>Do you think people show their true selves on social media? Do people post the truth or a distorted version of events? Are people more inclined to only post good things that happen in their lives? Why do you think this is the case? How do you think this makes other people feel when they view other people's posts/pictures?</p>	<p>Compose 3 well-written paragraphs, using the questions in the description as a guide, analyzing your thoughts about social media and how learning how to manage social media has become a skill in preparing for adulthood.</p> <p>Consider a counterclaim - if you think social media plays a positive role in preparing you for adulthood, what would someone say who thinks it negatively impacts you as you enter adulthood?</p>

