

# Chains, Forge, or Ashes Summer Reading Assignment



## Pick a book!

- **Chains**  
13-year old Isabel and her sister Ruth should be free once their master dies, but are instead now owned by the Lockton family in New York City at the start of the American Revolution.
- **Forge**  
Curzon is a runaway slave who joins the Patriot Army to fight for the country's freedom (and his own) through despicable conditions, including a long, cold winter at Valley Forge.
- **Ashes (this is more difficult to understand without reading the first two)**  
The colonies may be winning their freedom, but when Isabel and Curzon are labeled as runaway slaves as they enter the deep south their freedom remains in jeopardy.

## Read the book

Take the book to the beach, find a shady spot under a tree, or curl up on your favorite couch. Be sure to read the questions below before you begin, and don't forget that there's a Social Studies part to this assignment as well!

## Analyze the book

Please write three stand alone **paragraphs** to answer the following questions. Be sure to **support your answer with text evidence and analysis**. Questions will be submitted via Google Classroom on the first day of school, so type in google docs and title the document **Summer Reading Paragraphs**.

- 1) Which character trait best describes the protagonist of this story?
- 2) What is the protagonist's desire?
- 3) What is the theme of the novel?

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## Rubric

<p><b>Paragraph 1</b></p> <p>Your paragraph is well structured, with a topic sentence and transition words between ideas.</p> <p>You include relevant text evidence that helps support your answer.</p> <p>Your analysis is original, thoughtful and shows and understanding of the story elements in the book.</p> <p>Your writing is clear and easy to understand.</p> <p>Your paragraphs are error free in grammar, capitalization, punctuation and spelling.</p>	_____/30
<p><b>Paragraph 2</b></p> <p>Your paragraph is well structured, with a topic sentence and transition words between ideas.</p> <p>You include relevant text evidence that helps support your answer.</p> <p>Your analysis is original, thoughtful and shows and understanding of the story elements in the book.</p> <p>Your writing is clear and easy to understand.</p> <p>Your paragraphs are error free in grammar, capitalization, punctuation and spelling.</p>	
<p><b>Paragraph 3</b></p> <p>Your paragraph is well structured, with a topic sentence and transition words between ideas.</p> <p>You include relevant text evidence that helps support your answer.</p> <p>Your analysis is original, thoughtful and shows and understanding of the story elements in the book.</p> <p>Your writing is clear and easy to understand.</p> <p>Your paragraphs are error free in grammar, capitalization, punctuation and spelling.</p>	
<p><b>Overall</b></p> <p>Your overall work is neat, with a title and your name in the top left corner.</p> <p>You pick an academic font, 12-point size.</p> <p>Your work is 1.5 spaced.</p>	