



**Washington Montessori  
Public Charter School**

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Dear 7th and 8th Grade Students,

For your summer reading assignment, you are to secure a copy of *Wonder* and read it. As you read your book, annotate it in the margins (or on other paper if the book is not yours; include page numbers). After completing *Wonder*, think about the themes and complete a five paragraph essay. Bring it with you on the first day of school, August 29th.

You will write an essay on the themes of *Wonder*. As a reminder, the theme of a book is the story's underlying meaning or message. You can think of it as the "big ideas." It is common for stories to contain multiple themes.

Your five paragraph essay is to be about the themes and is to include an introduction, three body paragraphs, and a conclusion. It should be about three themes of the book, and it should include the following:

- 1) Introduction: It should introduce the book and have a thesis statement.
- 2) Body with 3 paragraphs: Each paragraph will open with a topic sentence and be about a different theme. Each theme/paragraph will have supporting details in 4-6 sentences.
- 3) Conclusion: It will wrap up the themes in the book, tying them together, showing why they matter, and leave the reader with a sense of closure.

Please refer back to the text/annotations throughout your essay by using quotations or to specific events to give supporting details. Each of the five paragraphs should be 4-6 sentences.

We will discuss *Wonder* during the first week(s) of school. During that time, you will be given numerous grades based on your participation in Socratic Seminars, quizzes, and projects. It will be important to read because several grades will be based on your understanding of the book.

The essay will be graded according to the following rubric:

- 25 points conventions (capitalization, punctuation, usage, spelling)
- 50 points content (topic sentences, themes, supporting details, transitions)
- 25 points organization (neatness, timeliness, logic, consistent tenses)

Have an awesome summer relaxing and spending quality time with your family!

The Middle School Team