



**The Catholic High School of Baltimore
Summer Reading List**

Teacher's Name: Mr. Derosier

School Year: 2019-2020

Grade Level: 9

Course No.: 112

Course Name: English Comp & Lit

Academic Level (Honors/AP/CP1/CP2/CPA): CP

READING:

Zig Zag by Ellen Wittlinger

ASSIGNMENT:

PART ONE

Instructions: Answer the following questions after you read the book. You may either hand write or type your answers to the questions for this part of the summer reading assignment. Your answers must be at least a paragraph (5-7 sentences) in length. Make sure you proofread your answers. Grammar, spelling, and punctuation count!

CHARACTER

Are the characters **convincing**? Do they come alive for you? How would you describe them—as sympathetic, likeable, thoughtful, intelligent, innocent, naive, strong or weak? Something else?

Do you **identify** with any characters? Are you able to look at events in the book through their eyes—even if you don't like or approve of them? Do they remind you of people in your own life? Or yourself?

Do any characters **change or grow** by the end of the story? Do they come to view the world and their relationship to it differently?

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PLOT

Is the **ending** a surprise or predictable? Does the end unfold naturally? Or is it forced, heavy handed, or manipulative? Is the ending satisfying, or would you prefer a different ending?

THEME

What about **theme**—the larger meanings behind the work? What ideas does the author explore? What is he or she trying to say?

PART TWO

Instructions: Write a personal essay in which you explore a time in your life where you were put into an uncomfortable position and had to make difficult or hard decisions. For example, maybe, it was a time where you were caught in the middle between two friends fighting and you worked, much like Robin, to bring peace. How did you know what to do? Could you sense yourself making more mature conversations or arguments? How did the experience make you feel? What was the end result? Did you come to any new conclusions about yourself and/or your life?

Your essay must:

- include a header at the top left side of the page, in this order:
 - Your Name
 - Mr. Derosier
 - English 112
 - Date
- be titled “My Zig Zag Essay”
- be at least one page, typed
- in 12-point Times New Roman font
- double-spaced
- have one-inch margins on all sides

Make sure you proofread your essay. Grammar, spelling, and punctuation count!



DUE DATE

Your summer reading assignment is due on the first full day of class.

ASSESSMENT

There will be an assessment *Zig Zag* at the beginning of the school year. You will receive more information about the assessment during the first week of school.

Should you have any questions this summer, my email address is:

sderosier@thecatholichighschool.org

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