INDEPENDENT NOVEL - SUMMARIZING FICTION

**INTRODUCTION:**

As you begin your reading your independent reading novel we will be focusing on writing summaries of fictional text. A fictional summary involves a brief retelling of the plot events that have occurred in the reading. For each reading you will complete a summary of the reading using time order transitions to mark the time between each plot event.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Author:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| --- | --- | --- |
| READING # | PAGES OR CHAPTERS | COMPLETION DUE DATE |
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|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

When writing a summary it is important to remember the following:

**The reading began when ...**  Begin with this prompt and state the first event that occurred.

**Organization -** The paragraph should be written in chronological order

**Verb Tense -** A fictional summary should always be written in **past** tense...as if the events have already happened

**Use time order transitions -** For each event stated a time order transition should be used to indicate how much time, if any, has gone by.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| After | Before | Recently | during | Soon after |
| Finally | In the mean time | Usually | preceding | Just before |
| Later that day(week, month, etc.) | Meanwhile | One year later | finally | Earlier |
| (hours, days) earlier | Immediately following | Next | As soon as | The following day |
| Earlier | The following day | afterward | Not long after |  |

EXAMPLE

The reading began when: ( List all major events in order of occurrence. )

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 Mena Pfest Pfest 1

 Ms. D’Angelo

 Literacy

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The Three Little Pigs

 In the novel, *The Three Little Pigs,* by James Marshall, **the reading began when** mother pig said good bye to her three little pigs and they went out to make their way in the world. **After traveling awhile** the first pig decided to build a house of straw. **Soon after** **finishing**, he was visited by the wolf who blew his house down and ate him. **Not long after**, the second pig decided to build a house from sticks and once again the wolf came to visit, blew the house down, and ate the pig. **Finally,** the wolf came to visit the third pig who had built his house from brick. When he could not blow the house down he tried unsuccessfully to get the pig to come out so he could attack and eat him. **Eventually**, the wolf tried to get to the pig by climbing down the chimney but was killed in the fire below.