INSTRUCTIONS:

A. Review the following novels and then choose one to complete for summer reading: *Freak the Mighty* by Rodman Philbrick, *Eric Liddell: Something Greater than Gold* by Geof and Janet Benge, *One Crazy Summer* by Rita Williams-Garcia, & *Book Scavenger* by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman. There are a few copies of *One Crazy Summer* available at the front desk that students may borrow. All four of the books may be found at your local library or can be purchased from a local or online bookstore.

B. Complete the attached reading comprehension questions for the novel you’ve chosen. Read each question carefully. Number each question, give a lot of detail, and write in complete sentences. Answers may be handwritten or typed. Spelling, grammar and neatness count!

**Freak the Mighty:**

1. While reading, make a list of at least five unfamiliar words you find in the novel and the page number on which each one appears. Use a dictionary to locate and write down each word’s definition. Then use each word correctly in a detailed sentence.
2. Who is telling the story (point of view) and what’s the setting?
3. When has Max previously seen Kevin and how exactly does Max know it’s the same kid?
4. With whom does Max live and why?
5. Why do you suppose Kevin and Max are drawn to each other? Explain your answer in detail.
6. What does Kevin call his mother and why?
7. What is it about Max that startles everyone the first time they meet him?
8. Explain why Max cries alone in his room after eating dinner with Kevin and the Fair Gwen.
9. Give examples of how Kevin “rescues” Max throughout the story.
10. Why did Gram “fear the worst” when she saw the blue and white lights of the cop cars?
11. Describe how Kevin and Max work together as one person, “Freak the Mighty.”
12. What is Kevin’s big secret?
13. What is so special about Kevin’s gift for Max?
14. In your opinion, why does Max refuse to write and even participate in class?
15. What kinds of conflict does Max face throughout the story? Give evidence from the book to support your answer!
16. How does Gram’s perception of Max change as the story progresses?
17. What kind of person is Max’s father? Give evidence from the book to support your answer!
18. Why isn’t Kevin telling his own story?
19. Why do you suppose that Kevin never told Max the truth?
20. Would you consider Kevin and/or Max to be heroes? Why or why not? Use evidence from the book to support your answer!
21. What lessons, themes, or morals did you learn from this novel? Explain your answer in detail.

**Eric Liddell: Something Greater than Gold:**

1. While reading, make a list of at least five unfamiliar words you find in the novel and the page number on which each one appears. Use a dictionary to locate and write down each word’s definition. Then use each word correctly in a detailed sentence.
2. What rebellion began shortly after Eric’s parents arrive in China? Why was this dangerous for them?
3. How did D.P. Thompson attract many local men in order to share the gospel with them? Why did he later ask Eric Liddell to speak?
4. What was the gift from God that allowed Eric to do God’s work, and how did he use it for God’s Glory?
5. What “miracle” event occurred during a race where Eric was running next to J.J. Gillies of England? Why was it considered miraculous?
6. Why were Eric’s Scottish fans angry with him during the 1924 Olympics?
7. Explain how Eric surprised the world during the 1924 Olympic Games.
8. What did Sir Alfred Ewing place onto Eric’s head at his college graduation?
9. What did Elsa McKechnie form in Eric’s honor?
10. How did Eric arrive to the railway station on July 13, 192? Who made the arrangements and why?
11. What was so unusual about Eric’s running style?
12. Why was it so difficult for Eric’s Chinese students to play sports?
13. Explain in detail the significance of the letter from Bella Montgomery.
14. Why was the decision to go to Siao Chang, China so difficult for Eric?
15. What dangers lurked in the Atlantic Ocean causing Royal Navy ships to escort a convoy of fifty ships?
16. What regulations and ban did the Japanese order to all foreigners? How did this interfere with Eric’s work? What solution did Eric come devise?
17. What new mandate pertaining to foreigners did the Japanese announce on March 12, 1943? How did the Japanese, especially the children, react?
18. What contest was often held by the Medical Department at Weihsien?
19. For what did Father Scanlan risk his life, and what happened when he finally got caught?
20. How did Eric Liddell die?
21. What lessons, themes, or morals did you learn from Eric Liddell’s inspiring life?

**Book Scavenger:**

1. While reading, make a list of at least five unfamiliar words you find in the novel and the page number on which each one appears. Use a dictionary to locate and write down each word’s definition. Then use each word correctly in a detailed sentence.
2. What is a “reveal dinner,” and what does it have to do with the Crane family?
3. In what way is Emily’s copy of *The Gold-Bug* unique?
4. By what method do James and Emily communicate while in their own apartments?
5. What terrible act is committed against the “Willy Wonka” of book publishing and why?
6. What is a scytale?
7. What is the real identity of the book scavenger known as Babbage?
8. Who is Rufus Griswold, and what does he have to do with the story?
9. What is the real identity of the book scavenger known as Raven?
10. Describe how note-passing during Mr. Quisling’s class turns into a class challenge.
11. Explain in detail how Clyde and Barry track down Surly Wombat.
12. How does “Her Royal Fungus” get a taste of her own medicine? Explain thoroughly.
13. Who is Bob?
14. Who is Steve?
15. Explain why Hollister is sleeping on a park bench and why it is fortunate that he is.
16. Who says the following phrase and how does it apply to the novel, “Not all book people are good people”?
17. What is a bookstume?
18. List and explain three ways in which this novel is based on historical fact.
19. Who do Emily, James, and Matthew win?
20. Who exactly are Flush and FiveSpade, and what do they have in common?
21. In your own words fully explain how you play and win the game, “Book Scavenger.”

One Crazy Summer:
1. While reading, make a list of at least five unfamiliar words you find in the novel and the page number on which each one appears. Use a dictionary to locate and write down each word’s definition. Then use each word correctly in a detailed sentence.
2. How would you describe Delphine’s relationship with her sisters?
3. What does Delphine expect from Cecile?
4. How do Delphine’s expectations differ from Vonetta’s and Fern’s?
5. In your own words, using strong adjectives and adverbs, describe Cecile.
6. What does Delphine decide about Oakland, California on her first night there? Explain her reaction.
7. Are Cecil and Delphine alike? How? How are they different?
8. What do the following items reveal about the characters who own them, specifically their personalities: Delphine and her Timex watch, Cecile and her typewriter, and Hirohito and his go-kart?
9. List more examples of characters with close associations to objects in the story. Then, explain what these items reveal about the characters you listed.
10. Explain Delphine’s reaction to finding her name in the dictionary. For what reasons is she upset?
11. Why Cecile call Fern “Little Girl,” refusing to acknowledge her real name?
12. What finally causes Cecile to call Fern, “Fern”? 
13. Use the Internet or a textbook to research the Black Panther Party. Then, write a paragraph summarizing who they were and what they hoped to achieve by focusing on the basic questions: who, what, when, where, why, and how.

14. How do the Black Panthers, Sister Mukumbu, and Sister Pat differ from Delphine’s original supposition?

15. How does Crazy Kelvin’s behavior negatively impact the entire Black Panther Party? What kind of example does he set?

16. What does the stool in the kitchen mean to Delphine, and how does her relationship with Cecile change the evening it appears?

17. How does Delphine feel about the messages of the Black Panthers?

18. What is a metaphor? How might Delphine’s ride on the go-kart be a metaphor; what does it symbolize or tell the reader about Delphine?

19. How does Cecile’s story about what happened differ from Big Ma’s version? How does Delphine react to learning about her mother’s side of the story?

20. Is Delphine a static character (does not change or learn anything new) or dynamic character (changes in a profound way and often learns something about himself/herself)? Give evidence from the story to backup your answer!

21. Do Delphine, Vonetta and Fern find what they are looking for on their trip to Oakland? Why or why not? Explain your answer thoroughly.