***Each SSR Module lasts approximately one month; essays are submitted via email and are typically due by midnight on the last day of each month.***

1. **Adventure, Survivalism or Animal Intelligence (Most Dangerous Game, Can Animals Think? and animal cognition short research/position paper).**

Write a short essay in which you address all of the following:  
Is your book fiction or non-fiction? How do you know?  
How does your book connect to The Most Dangerous Game, Can Animals Think and/or Animal Genius? Be thorough in your response.  
Does this book remind you of any other stories or articles you've read in the past? A simple yes or no is NOT appropriate here. If it does not remind you of any other stories, explain why you think there have been no other stories like it.  
Finally, did you like your book? Would you recommend it to a friend? Explain.

1. **Death, dying or loss; conflict with parents (Romeo & Juliet)**

Write a well-developed essay in which you address all of the following questions. You do not have to answer the questions in order and the essay should be written so that someone who did not know the questions could understand the essay. Do not include the actual questions in your essay.

What is the title of your book? How does the title of the book relate to the story - specifically, why do you think the author chose this title?

Who are the main characters in your book? Describe the main characters and explain the techniques the author used to convey each character's traits. How do you think the author hoped the reader would feel about these characters?

Describe the main conflict in the book and explain how the author revealed the key elements of the conflict. How did the author choose to resolve the conflict?

Do you think the author did an effective job of telling this story? Explain thoroughly, providing examples from the book to support your position.

Finally, check your essay thoroughly for spelling and grammatical errors. Points will be deducted for unpolished, unedited essays.

1. **Non-fiction – free choice of topic (non-fiction selections, development of a classroom magazine)**

Write a well-developed essay in which you address all of the following questions. You do not have to answer the questions in order *and the essay should be written so that someone who did not know the questions could understand the essay*. Do not include the actual questions in your essay.

What are the title and topic of your book?

Why did you choose this particular book and what did you expect the book to be about?

What do you think the author’s purpose of writing this book was? Ex: Did he intend to teach the audience about something specific? Did she want to bring an issue to the audience’s attention?

Do you think the author had a particular opinion or bias on the topic? How do you know? Be specific.

If this book is a biography or auto-biography, explain whether or not you think the author presented the material fairly and accurately.

Did this book make you want to read or learn more about this or a related topic? Explain.

If you were charged with making this book into a documentary that is no longer than 60 minutes long (excluding any commercials), what are the key facts or events you would need to include so that the audience completely understands the topic? What information would you have to cut from your documentary? How would you present the information? Explain your choices thoroughly.

1. **Fantasy, war or religious history (The Odyssey)**

Write a short essay in which you address all of the following:   
What do you know about Homer's epic poem, "The Odyssey"? Are you familiar with Greek mythology?   
In what ways do you think Greek mythology has influenced fantasy stories throughout time? Do you see influences from mythology in modern books and movies? Explain.   
What is your book title and what is the topic?   
What influences do you see in your book OR what connections can you make between your book and what you expect from "The Odyssey"? Be thorough in your response.   
Finally, did you like your book? Would you recommend it to a friend? Explain.

1. **Coming of Age, Overcoming obstacles, Parent/Child conflict (Dead Poets Society character analysis, poetry)**

Write a well-developed essay in which you address all of the following questions. You do not have to answer the questions in order and the essay should be written so that someone who did not know the questions could understand the essay. Do not include the actual questions in your essay.   
Why did you choose this book to read? Was it recommended by someone or did you just select it?   
What is the major conflict in this story? Is the conflict resolved?   
What is the main theme in this book? How do you know (please do not write "I know this because" in your essay)? Is this a theme that is common in many books? Does this author address it in a way that is new or different?   
If you were told to rewrite a particular incident in this book, what would it be and why? How would your rewrite change the tone of this book? Explain completely.

1. **100% student choice, but must be able to explain WHY the student chose the book**

Write a short essay in which you address all of the following:   
Why did you choose this book to read? Was it recommended by someone or did you just select it?   
What did you like/dislike most about the book? How is it different from the other books you've read this school year?   
If you were in charge of making a movie about this book, who would you cast as the main character(s) and why? What location(s) would you choose for filming? Explain in detail.Please remember to "Turn In" your assignment - don't simply post to the wall. If you have questions, please see me.   
  
Write a short essay in which you address all of the following:   
  
Why did you choose this book to read? Was it recommended by someone or did you just select it?   
  
What did you like/dislike most about the book? How is it different from the other books you've read this school year?   
...

1. **Classmate recommended book – must be a book the classmate has read for a previous module**

Write a well-developed essay in which you address all of the following questions. You do not have to answer the questions in order and the essay should be written so that someone who did not know the questions could understand the essay. Do not include the actual questions in your essay.   
What is the title of your book? Who recommended this book to you?   
How did you decide whose recommendation to take? What criteria did you base your decision on? Was it more important to get a recommendation from someone you knew and trusted or to find a title you thought was interesting? Explain in depth!   
How do you typically determine which book you will read next?   
To whom did you recommend books for this module? How did (or, if you didn't recommend a book - how WOULD) you decide which books to recommend to different individuals?   
Did you enjoy this book? Explain, using specific examples, why or why not.   
Thoroughly describe the main conflict in the book. Describe three specific aspects of the book that remind you of other stories you've read before. Explain the similarities completely and thoroughly. For example, The Hunger Games may remind you of the short story, "The Most Dangerous Game" because of the fact that each involves hunting humans.   
Would you recommend this book to any of your friends? Why or why not?   
Finally, check your essay thoroughly for spelling and grammatical errors. Points will be deducted for unpolished, unedited essays.