



## STPA ELA 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

As you read the assigned novel (Ground Zero by Alan Gratz), please do the following prior to the first week of school:

1. **Read the book.**
2. **Complete TWO character-analysis organizers**, one for the **Brandon** and one for **Reshmina**.  
Following the guiding questions for each section of the graphic organizer. Answer each question in complete sentences. If you need additional room, you may attach an extra page, or may adjust the sizes of the boxes to fit your responses.
3. **Complete the LITERARY DEVICE SCAVENGER HUNT.** Use the example provided as a guide and be sure to cite the page number that your device was found on. Your explanation of each device must be a complete sentence(s).
4. **Write a paragraph to respond to the REFLECTION ON THEME question.** You may type your paragraph in the box provided and adjust the size to fit the length of your paragraph. Remember to include and incorporate supporting evidence in your response.
5. Be prepared to write a well-developed paragraph (4-6 sentences) in response to a question on characterization or character development. Also, be ready to give EVIDENCE to support your claim.

**GRADING NOTES: This is a 400-point assignment!**

\_\_\_\_\_/100: TWO character-analysis organizers (possible 50 pts. each x 2= possible 100 pts.)

\_\_\_\_\_/100: Literary Device Scavenger Hunt

\_\_\_\_\_/100: ONE well-developed Theme Analysis paragraph

\_\_\_\_\_/100: WRITING in-class assignment during 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of school year

# BRANDON

*For each box below, respond to character analysis questions 1-3 in phrases. Then, answer the final reflection questions 4 and 5.*

Family/Cultural Background	How he is treated vs. how he wants to be treated (Expectations)
<p><i>1. What do we know about Brandon's family and culture?</i></p> <p><i>2. How does their background affect the character, or what impact does it have on the character?</i></p> <p><i>3. Why is it important? What does it reveal about his/her character/personality?</i></p>	<p><i>1. How does Brandon want others around him to treat him? How is he actually treated?</i></p> <p><i>2. How does it affect the character, or what impact does it have on the character? (NOTE: No matter what we know, it affects the character.)</i></p> <p><i>3. Why is it important? What does it reveal about his/her character?</i></p>
Conflict/Motivations	Philosophies/Values/Beliefs
<p><i>1. What is Brandon's main conflict (2001)?</i></p> <p><i>2. What reactions does the character have to the conflict? What motivates this reaction?</i></p> <p><i>3. What lasting impact does the conflict have on the character?</i></p>	<p><i>1. What are the character's core values or beliefs?</i></p> <p><i>2. What do these values and beliefs influence the character?</i></p> <p><i>3. Why is it important? What does it reveal about his/her character?</i></p>

#### 4. What ideas might this character represent?

**5. How does the writer use this character to convey a message or lesson?**



### CHARACTER ANALYSIS ORGANIZER FOR **RESHMINA**

*For each box below, respond to character analysis questions 1-3 in phrases. Then, answer the final reflection questions 4 and 5.*

Family/Cultural Background	How she is treated vs. how she wants to be treated (Expectations)
<p><i>1. What do we know about Reshmina's family and culture?</i></p> <p><i>2. How does their background affect the character, or what impact does it have on the character?</i></p> <p><i>3. Why is it important? What does it reveal about his/her character/personality?</i></p>	<p><i>1. How does Reshmina want others around her to treat her? How is she actually treated?</i></p> <p><i>2. How does it affect the character, or what impact does it have on the character? (NOTE: No matter what we know, it affects the character.)</i></p> <p><i>3. Why is it important? What does it reveal about his/her character?</i></p>
Conflict/Motivations	Philosophies/Values/Beliefs
<p><i>1. What is Brandon's main conflict (2001)?</i></p> <p><i>2. What reactions does the character have to the conflict? What motivates this reaction?</i></p> <p><i>3. What lasting impact does the conflict have on the character?</i></p>	<p><i>1. What are the character's core values or beliefs?</i></p> <p><i>2. What do these values and beliefs influence the character?</i></p> <p><i>3. Why is it important? What does it reveal about his/her character?</i></p>

**4. What ideas might this character represent?**

**5. How does the writer use this character to convey a message or lesson?**



### LITERARY SCAVENGER HUNT

Using the novel, identify one example of each literary device. In the middle column, provide evidence (word-for-word from the text in quotation marks) of the literary device. In the last column, explain what effect is created by the use of the device. An example is provided for you.

Literary Device	Text Evidence	Explanation
<i><b>Simile</b></i>	<i>"Now Brandon could feel the silence, like an invisible thing that had squeezed in between them on the seat and was pushing them apart." (pg. 2)</i>	<i>The author uses the simile to show how the silence felt like it was coming between Brandon and his dad; like it was an actual thing.</i>
<i><b>Simile</b></i>		
<i><b>Metaphor</b></i>		
<i><b>Personification</b></i>		
<i><b>Onomatopoeia</b></i>		
<i><b>Imagery</b></i>		
<i><b>Symbolism</b></i>		
<i><b>Foreshadowing</b></i>		
<i><b>Flashback</b></i>		
<i><b>Irony</b></i>		
<i><b>Compound Sentence</b></i>		
<i><b>Complex Sentence</b></i>		
<i><b>Diction (Positive connotation)</b></i>		
<i><b>Diction (Negative connotation)</b></i>		
<i><b>Mood</b></i>		



*Write a paragraph to respond to the following Theme Analysis question. You will be graded on the accuracy of your answer, relevance of your included text evidence, and thoroughness of your explanation. Your paragraph should be around 4 to 6 sentences. Be sure to check for grammar, spelling, and punctuation.*

### **Reflection on Theme**

**What is the central theme of the novel? Why do you believe this is the primary message the author wants you to learn?** *Be sure to include evidence from the novel that you feel illustrates or supports this theme.*