

**Rising 7<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders:** This packet must be completed for **each** literary work assigned on the summer reading list. Students **must cite any external sources** they have used in the completion of this assignment. Do not share your work. BOXES LEFT BLANK will bring down your grade. In addition, history students need not complete this form for *recommended* reading selections.

### Major Work Data Sheet

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title of book:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Author:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Biographical Information about the author.** Find a minimum of three biographical facts regarding this author.

1)

2)

3)

**Historical Information about the period of publication.** Research the time period in which the author lived. What interesting social, historical, or political conditions existed at the time? Find a minimum of three facts.

1)

2)

3)

**Characteristics of the genre.** (Genre is a type or category of literature) What kind of literature does this work represent? Mystery? Autobiography? Drama? What are three characteristics of this particular genre in this work?

1)

2)

3)

## Characters

Name (consider symbolism)	Role in Story	Significance	Adjectives

**Setting**

Record all details of time and place in this story. When does this story take place? Where?

**Symbols**

A *symbol* is anything that stands for or represents something else. A flag, for example, can represent a country. List **three** symbols that you found in this story and explain what they represent.

1)

2)

3)

**Theme**

The *theme* is a central idea, concern, or purpose in a literary work. It must be stated as a complete sentence, and it must state a generalization – a universal truth – that is demonstrated through the work. For example, “friendship” would not be a sufficient statement of theme because it is not a complete sentence and does not express a universal truth. “True friendships enrich one’s life,” however, is a satisfactory statement of a theme.