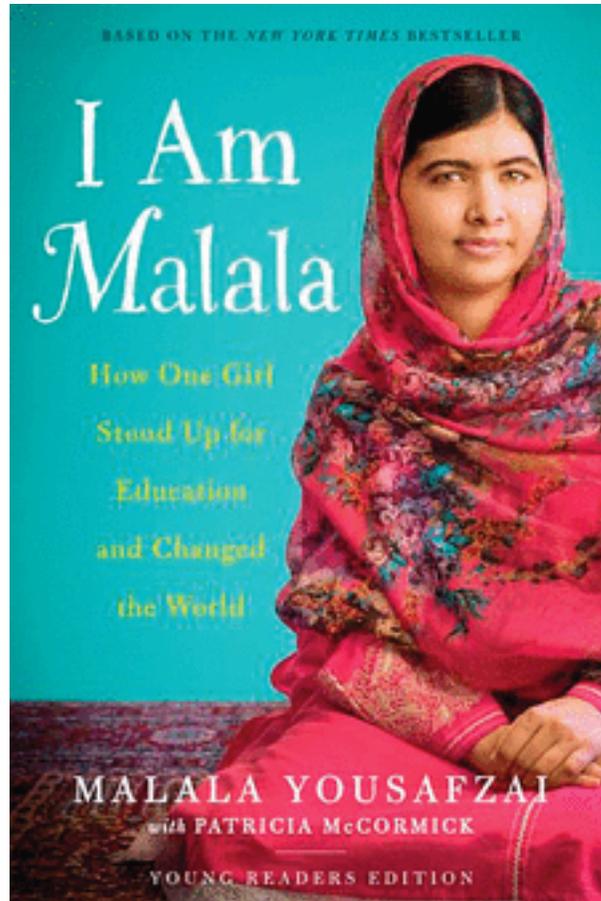


Rising 7th grade
"I am Malala" Summer Reading Assignment



Name _____

** Complete this packet in its entirety and bring it with you on the first day of school to turn in for a grade in English class. Be prepared to discuss the book in class!**

Instructions: For each section of the book, complete the double-sided reading chart and the reading questions.

The Prologue

Page Number	Brief quote from text	Personal connection/why it stands out to you

1. After being shot, Malala was removed from her life in Pakistan. How is her new country different from her old one?

2. Where does Malala currently live?

Part One: Before the Taliban

Page Number	Brief quote from text	Personal connection/why it stands out to you

1. Why is it a gloomy day for a Pashtun when a daughter is born?

2. What is the code of Pashtunwali?

3. Malala was named after Malalai, a great heroine of Afghanistan. Explain Malalai's significance.

4. How does Malala describe her home, Swat (Mingora)?

5. Why are Malala's parents unlike most others in Pakistan?

6. Were the Pakistani people optimistic after Benazir Bhutto was elected as the prime minister? Why?

7. When Malala and her family visit their relatives in the village, her cousins make fun of her. Why?

8. Why might Malala be described as a "competitive" person?

9. Why does Malala begin stealing?

10. How does Malala's mother respond when her daughter tries to say that Safina started stealing first?

11. Why does Malala say she has a problem with the *Pashtunwali* code?

Part Two: A Shadow over Our Valley

Page Number	Brief quote from text	Personal connection/why it stands out to you

1. How do the Mullahs use the earthquake to their advantage?

2. Why was Fazlullah able to exploit the ignorance of his people?

3. At first, Malala's mother kind of liked Fazlullah's brand of preaching. But, she eventually changed her mind. What was the final straw for her?

4. What did the girls of the Red Mosque prove?

5. Malala considers Benazir a role model. What does she say that Benazir symbolized?

6. What happens on the night of Benazir's return to Pakistan, as she is being paraded through the town?

7. "If there is a snake or a lion coming to attack us, what would we say is good, the snake or the lion?" Explain what this quote means to Malala and the people of Pakistan.

8. When Malala asks her father if he is scared, how does he reply?

Part Three: Finding My Voice

Page Number	Brief quote from text	Personal connection/why it stands out to you

1. What does Malala begin to believe about her mission in life— her campaign for education?

2. Why does Malala agree to write the diary for the BBC correspondent?

3. Why does Malala use the pseudonym Gul Makai when she is writing her diary?

Part Four: Targeted

Page Number	Brief quote from text	Personal connection/why it stands out to you

1. Why did the Taliban make a proclamation of their threat against Malala's life?

2. The week that Malala is shot, there are three bad omens that occur. List them:

3. Explain what happens when Malala is shot. Use details from the text.

Part Five: A New Life, Far From Home

Page Number	Brief quote from text	Personal connection/why it stands out to you

1. Where was Malala's father when he received word that she had been shot?

2. Even though most people would've been flattered to see so many dignitaries arrive at the hospital to check on Malala, how does her father feel?

3. While Malala was in the hospital, the Taliban issued a statement. Summarize the statement.

4. Why were the British doctors intent on moving Malala?

5. Why didn't Malala's father accompany her to England?

6. What are the first two questions that Malala has when she awakens?

7. Why were people, in the hospital, not allowed to tell Malala things or bring in newspapers?

8. How are Malala's features different when she wakes up in Birmingham?

9. What one material possession did Malala want while she was in the hospital?

10. Why didn't Malala's legs work properly when she got up to walk around?

11. Why is Malala's father so upset when he sees what the Taliban have done to his daughter?

12. What day was declared Malala Day by the United Nations?

13. How do people in the U.K., like Mr. Zardari and Gordon Brown, make things easier for Malala's family?

14. Why does Malala feel that God spared her– gave her a second life?

15. Why is Malala’s mother unhappy in England?

16. Why is Malala’s father unhappy living in the U.K.?

17. Why does Malala say that she likes England?

18. Fill in the blanks: “One _____, one _____, one _____ and one _____ can change the world.”

19. What does Malala say is her final wish?

After-reading reflection

Now that you have finished the novel, select three of these questions to reflection on the book and show your understanding. Answer them each on their own sheet of paper and use quotes from the text support your points. A complete answer to each question will be at least 10 sentences.

- 1) Malala is known for her passion for education and women's rights. How does her passion for education shape her life? Do you have a particular cause that you care about deeply?
- 2) Malala became an activist when she was very young. Discuss how you felt while reading about her experience. Where did Malala find her courage and inspiration?
- 3) Malala and her father have a very unique and close relationship. Think of someone in your life who has been a mentor. How did they inspire you?
- 4) Discuss Malala's relationship with her mother. What influence does she have on Malala? In what ways does Malala's relationship with her mother compare/contrast with her relationship with her father?
- 5) Have you dealt with a traumatic or life changing experience? How did you react in the aftermath of that incident?
- 6) Malala witnesses her immediate surroundings change dramatically within a short time period. Describe the changes to both Pakistan and Swat throughout I AM MALALA. How does Malala experience and respond to these changes? How is Malala's character influenced and shaped by her surroundings?
- 7) Throughout the book, Malala describes her desire to return home to Swat valley. Discuss how Malala's relationship with Swat is complicated even further by her role as an activist. Do you think Malala will return to Pakistan and Swat?
- 8) Malala demonstrates an overwhelming sense of courage in the face of adversity. Discuss how Malala reacts to the challenges she faces, as well as the challenges to Swat and Pakistan. How do her peers react? What gives them strength?
- 9) Malala's family now lives in Birmingham, England. Have you ever been uprooted in your life? What happened and how did you adapt? How did that experience shape your worldview?
- 10) "O Malalai of Maiwand/ Rise once more to make Pashtuns understand the song of honor/ Your poetic words turn worlds around/ I beg you, rise again," Malala's father sang to her. What is the meaning of these words? How would you express this poem to a peer?

