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**MIDDLE SCHOOL  
SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT  
GRADE 7**

The required novel for incoming 7<sup>th</sup> graders is *The Giver* by Lois Lowry, which is available for purchase in the school bookstore. Read the book with the questions below in mind. You may then handwrite or use your computer to print out your answers in well developed paragraphs of approximately 8-10 sentences. Start with a rough draft, and then edit and revise it before making a final copy. Finally, bring your final copy to your English teacher on the **first day of school**.

**A. Answer each of the following.**

1. The community in *The Giver* is one in which every person and his or her experiences are precisely the same. For example, the climate is controlled, and competition has been eliminated so that everyone is working only for the common good. What advantages might “sameness” have for a community? Is the loss of diversity worthwhile? Explain.
2. The ending of the book is *ambiguous*, which means it can be interpreted in more than one way. Explain at least two possible interpretations. Which do you feel is correct? Support your reasoning with details from the novel.

**B. Answer one more from among the following, and include the number of your choice.**

3. Describe the author’s development of the main character. How does he change over the course of the novel, and what causes these changes?
4. What initial conflict/problem is faced by the main character? What type of conflict became evident as the story progresses? How are the conflicts resolved?
5. A *utopian* society is an imaginary place where everything is supposed to be perfect. Is it realistic to have a utopian society? Why or why not? Support your answer with details from the novel.