

Lincoln Park Academy 8th Grade English Summer Reading Assignment

For the 2026-2027 school year at LPA, all 8th-grade students will read a novel over the summer and complete an assignment for it. The required 8th-grade novel is *The Uglies* by Scott Westerfeld

All assignments will be due before September 4, 2026. Assignments will be scored as a 30% Formative Assessment grade.

Overview: *The Uglies*

The Uglies is Scott Westerfeld's dystopian novel in which everyone is considered an "ugly," but they are turned "pretty" by getting extreme cosmetic surgery at the age of 16. In *The Uglies*, Westerfeld examines the differences of the pretty world and ugly world and the choices the protagonists must make.

Tally is about to turn sixteen, and she can't wait. In just a few weeks, she'll have the operation that will turn her from a repellent ugly into a stunningly attractive pretty. And as a pretty, she'll be catapulted into a high-tech paradise where her only job is to have fun.

But Tally's new friend Shay isn't sure she wants to become a pretty. When Shay runs away, Tally learns about a whole new side of the pretty world—and it isn't very pretty. The authorities offer Tally a choice: find her friend and turn her in, or never turn pretty at all. Tally's choice will change her world forever.

Assignment #1 – 1-pager

After students read *The Uglies*, they will complete a colored, comprehensive 1-Pager. Please see the attached assignment details. They can create the chart in PowerPoint, MS Word, or print and create the 1-pager.

Assignment #2: - Plot Diagram

Please fill out the attached plot diagram.

Plagiarism

All work that you complete must be your own. Summer reading is not a group or partner assignment, nor can you copy from websites, such as Sparknotes, Cliffnotes, or any other website that may provide answers. Work that is plagiarized will earn a 0%. There will be no exceptions. This includes using Artificial Intelligence (AI). AI use is strictly prohibited.









Note: "The Uglies" assessment and assignment are based on the novel, not the movie. The movie is not the same as the novel.

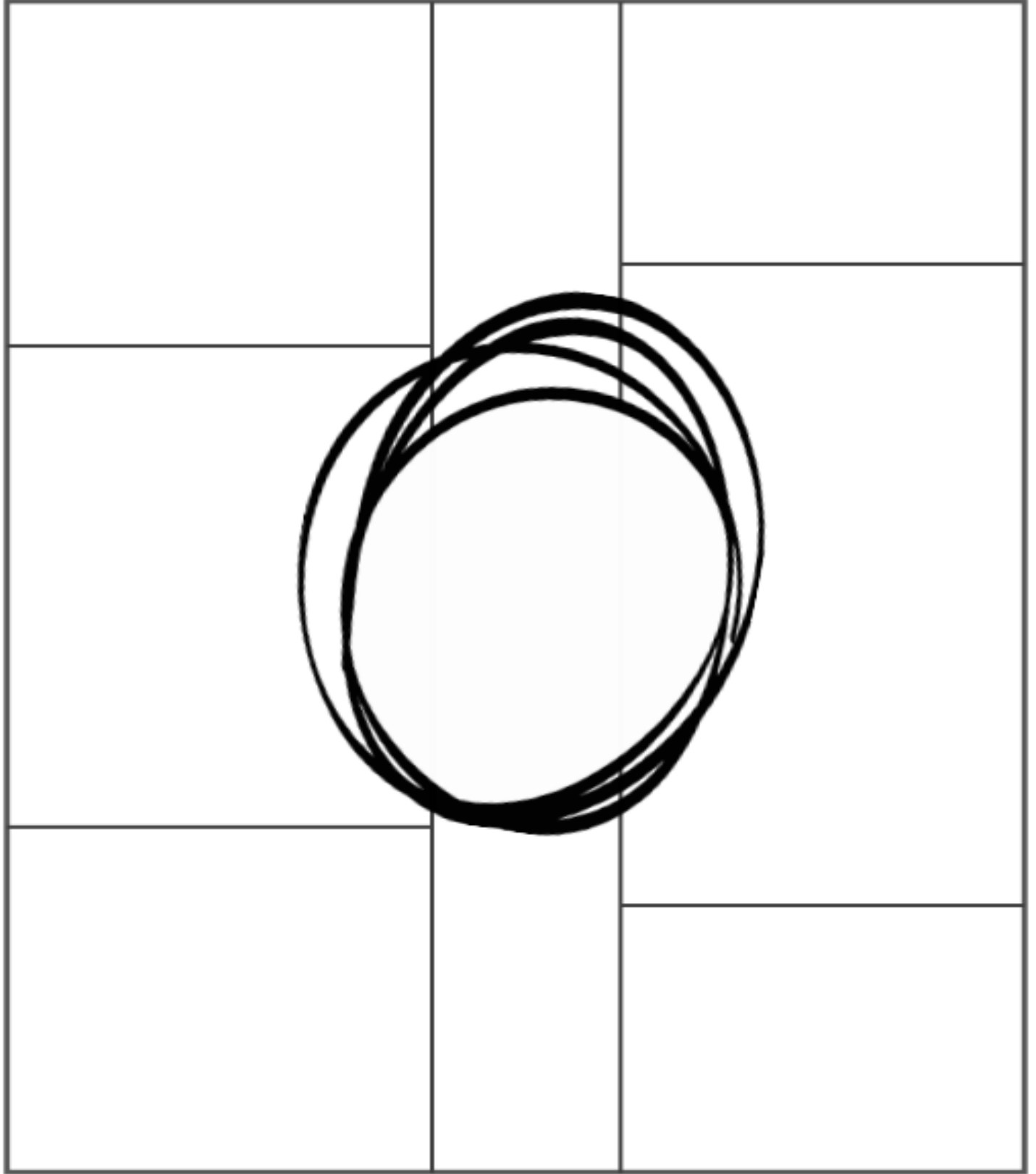
ONE-PAGER CHOICE BOARD

FOR “THE UGLIES”

Directions:

- (1) Identify a theme of the novel. Write or type the thematic statement in a prominent location on the organizer (such as the center).
- (2) Choose six different options from the choice board to include in your 1-pager. If you create a digital copy, please provide a citation for your images.
- (3) You must display the title, author, and your name somewhere on the front.
- (4) Choose (10) different words or phrases to use around the border that are relevant to the story.
- (5) Include an important quote – it doesn’t have to be something a character said. It can be from the narration of the story. Cite it with page numbers and explain it’s importance.

<p style="text-align: center;">SETTING</p> <p>What is the setting of the story (time, weather, place, era)? Include a picture or illustration. Write a sentence or two explaining how the setting affects the characters, mood, theme, etcetera.</p> <p>Incorporate related drawings, doodles, or images!</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">characters</p> <p>What internal conflicts does the main character face? How does the character change, and how do those experiences contribute to the development of the theme? Use a font that symbolically reflects this character's personality.</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">ACTION</p> <p>Show a short chain of events / flow chart that summarizes the story. How does dialogue (A) impact characters' decisions (B), and then how do those decisions impact actions and events (C) to ultimately shape the theme?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A B C = THEME</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MOOD</p> <p>Insert or draw an emoji and/or GIF that captures the mood of the text.</p> 
<p style="text-align: center;">AUTHOR'S CRAFT</p> <p>What stylistic choices does the author make to create the mood and tone? What words (think connotation and figurative language!) and sentence styles (colloquialisms, allusions, sentence lengths, rhythm, etc.) do you notice? Make a bulleted list!</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">DESCRIPTION</p> <p>Identify descriptive language, imagery, and figurative language (similes, personification, metaphors, hyperboles, etc.). How are they related to the theme?</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">PLOT</p> <p>To what could you compare the plot of this story? Find a picture and explain the connection. (Ex. - a roller coaster, a mountain, a hazardous road with unexpected twists, cliffs, or fallen branches)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MOTIVATION</p> <p>What motivates the characters in the story? How does that motivation impact the outcome of the story and, ultimately, the theme?</p> 
<p style="text-align: center;">POINT OF VIEW</p> <p>How is the point of view in this story biased? What perspectives do we get? What perspectives are missing? How does the POV impact suspense or humor? And, how does the author's choice in point of view contribute to the overall theme?</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">PACING</p> <p>What impacts the pacing of this text? Think about flashbacks, foreshadowing, and text structure (shifting points of view, organization, chapter lengths, sentence lengths). Jot down a few notes about the pace, and then find a picture of an animal that matches the speed of the text.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">GENRE</p> <p>What is the genre of this text? Would the thematic statement you have created fit other books in this genre? Which ones?</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">SYMBOLISM</p> <p>What words, phrases, ideas, or objects are repeated throughout the text? What might be their importance? What could they symbolize? Write about it! Also, wherever possible, incorporate colors and fonts that are symbolic of different literary elements on this menu.</p>



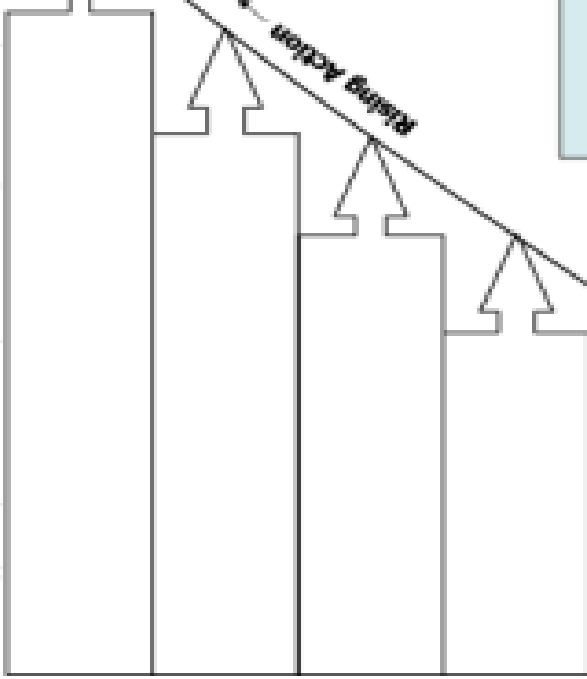
Plot Curve

Novel: _____
Author: _____

Climax: The turning point in the story - the point of greatest conflict and intensity

Rising Action:

What events, problems, and conflicts build suspense or increase complications in the story?



Climax

Falling Action:
What events help wrap up the story?

Falling Action

Rising Action

Resolution:

How does the story end? How is the conflict resolved?

Protagonist vs. Antagonist

(Character who has conflict with the main character)

Conflict

Exposition:

- Setting: _____
- Situation: _____
- Characters: _____

Theme: The central ideas through the novel, the author's reason for writing or the meaning of the story