



Grade 6 Summer 2026 Book Report #1

Course: English Language Arts (ELA)

Theme: Mystery Detectives: Nancy Drew and The Hardy Boys

Due Date: On or before Tuesday, September 15, 2026 (Submitted via Google Classroom)

Assessment Weight: Each book report will be recorded as a full test grade.

Overview & Objectives

Welcome to your 6th Grade Summer Reading Assignment! This summer, you will delve into the world of classic mystery and detective fiction. You will demonstrate your literary understanding of the novels through comprehensive summary, character analysis, theme exploration, and critical thinking.

Upon returning to school in the fall, students will take a formal exam assessing comprehension, plot analysis, character development, and the ability to compare and contrast both texts.

Required Reading List

Students entering the 6th grade are required to read both of the following novels:

1. ***Nancy Drew — #22: The Case of the Crumbling Wall*** by Carolyn Keene
2. ***The Hardy Boys — #1: The Tower Treasure*** by Franklin W. Dixon

Note: Copies of these books are widely available for purchase online through retailers like Amazon, and free PDF versions can be accessed online.

Assignment Instructions

You must complete a separate, dedicated book report for **each** of the two required novels. Follow the structural guidelines below for your submissions:

Section 1: Plot Summary (1–2 Paragraphs)

Provide a detailed summary of the novel's plot in your own words. Ensure your writing addresses the following points:

- Identify the primary and supporting characters.
- Establish the setting (where and when the story takes place).
- Explain the central mystery or conflict that the detectives are trying to solve.
- Highlight key clues, plot twists, and obstacles encountered during the investigation.

- Detail how the mystery is ultimately resolved.

Section 2: Character Analysis (1 Paragraph)

Select one major character from the novel (e.g., Nancy Drew, Bess Marvin, George Fayne, Frank Hardy, or Joe Hardy) and analyze their role in the story:

- Describe their core personality traits, using evidence from the book.
- Explain how they handle danger, pressure, and problem-solving.
- Highlight the specific strengths they display that contribute to solving the mystery.

Section 3: Theme Exploration (1 Paragraph)

Identify a central theme or moral lesson present in the novel and explain how it is developed through the plot. You may choose one of the following themes or select your own:

- **Courage:** Facing fear or danger to do what is right.
- **Teamwork:** Overcoming obstacles by working together.
- **Justice:** Uncovering the truth and making things right.
- **Curiosity:** Pursuing answers and learning from surroundings.

Evaluation & Grading Criteria

Each report will be evaluated out of **100 total points** based on the following breakdown:

Assessment Category	Maximum Points
Plot Summary (Accuracy, completeness, and detail)	25 Points
Character Analysis (Depth of insight and supportive evidence)	25 Points
Theme Analysis (Clear explanation and integration of plot examples)	25 Points
Effort, Grammar, & Formatting (Spelling, punctuation, and neatness)	25 Points
Total Possible Score	100%