

9th Grade Summer Book Report

The Alchemist

Paulo Coelho

In The Alchemist, Paulo Coelho tells the magical story of Santiago, an Andalusian shepherd boy who yearns to travel in search of a worldly treasure as extravagant as any ever found. The author expresses the theme that all individuals should live in the singular pursuit of their individual dreams.

Your task for this book report is to create your own fictional story in which you envision the protagonist on the pursuit of a journey for their individual dream. What obstacles are in their path? How attainable is the dream? Does he or she end up achieving their dreams?

(3 Pages, Times New Roman size 12)

	5	3	1
Conventions	Spelling is correct throughout piece. Punctuation is used correctly. Format and presentation is correct / professional (Times New Roman, size 12, double spaced).	Some spelling errors throughout piece. Some punctuation mistakes are present. Format and presentation is somewhat flawed.	Many spelling and punctuation errors throughout piece. Format and presentation is very flawed (font is too large, format is inconsistent, etc.).
Word Choice / Sentence Fluency	Word choice is inventive, sophisticated, and appropriate. Word choice is consciously appropriate and deliberate for character. Sentences read smoothly making it easy to decipher meaning. Sentence structure is varied and complex. Dialogue (when present) is effective/appropriate/believable.	Word choice is standard, but still appropriate. Sentences read smoothly but lack luster, structure, and variety. Dialogue is either not present, or not effectively incorporated.	Word choice is below grade level. Sentences have no variety, do not have any structure, and affect overall comprehension.
Page Count	Minimum page count is met.	Slightly below page count minimum.	Page count minimum is far from being met.
Ideas / Organization / Content	Setting, characters, and plot are fully fleshed out, vibrant, and connected. Flow of action is logical and deliberate. Plot is original/creative/imaginative. Ending is effective, fitting, and provides a sense of completion.	Setting, characters, and plot are connected and somewhat creative. Plot is somewhat engaging, creative, and imaginative. Ending just about provides a sense of completion but without much creativity.	Setting, characters, and plot are not connected and heavily lack creativity. Plot is neither engaging nor creative. No ending or inconsistent ending.
Style / Voice	Vivid and imaginative descriptive details are present. Writing reflects a unique, consistent personal voice.	Some descriptive details are present. Writing somewhat reflects a unique and personal voice.	Little to no descriptive details are present. Writing barely reflects a unique and personal voice.