

7th Grade

There is **one** required reading books during the summer. All incoming 7th grade students (current and new) must read:

Incoming 7th

Zach's Lie – Roland Smith - Assignment (See Below)

As you read *Zach's Lie*, you are to keep a journal of responses to the questions/tasks below. You will need to:

- ✓ Keep your journal in a composition notebook
- ✓ Label each entry with the journal number and date
- ✓ Entries should be in complete sentences and in paragraph form
- ✓ Each paragraph should be **at least 8 sentences**
- ✓ Spelling and Punctuation count
- ✓ **Be creative!**

Journal 1: (Prediction)

Before reading, read only the first sentence on the back cover of the novel. What does this one sentence tell you about the story you are about to read? (Answer the question in 5-6 sentences)

Note: The IF in Commander IF stands for “imaginary friend.”

Journal 2: What was strange about the way Aunt Doris, Uncle Don, Mom and the storyteller and his sister boarded the plane? (Answer the question in full sentences, use textual evidence from the book)

Journal #3: Why did Jack spend six weeks in the hospital? (Answer the question in full sentences, use textual evidence from the book)

Journal #4: What did Jack discover about his father when his father would sometimes sit beside Jack's hospital bed? (Answer the question in full sentences, use textual evidence from the book)

Journal #5: Why was Jack given the name Zach? (Answer the question in full sentences, use textual evidence from the book)

Journal #6: How does the author's tone affect the meaning of the story in the following passage?

“Zach opened the van’s sliding door. Ignoring the blast of dry heat, he hurried over to the Taurus, not wanting to miss a second of his sister’s shock. He wasn’t disappointed. Her mouth hung open and her blue eyes, which used to be brown, looked like they were going to pop out of their sockets. This was nothing compared to her reaction when she saw her bedroom, which was smaller than her closet at their old house. She began to cry, but the house was so hot that her mascara-tinted tears evaporated before they got halfway down her cheeks.”

Journal #7: How does Zach's friendship with Sam change his experience in Elko? How do you think Zach would have adjusted if Sam had not befriended him?

Journal #8: How does Sam help the family build a new life? Could they have done so without him?

Journal #9: Catalin has caught Zach’s eye and he is interested in her romantically. Do you think she is interested in him, as well? Why or why not? Do you believe they are a good match?

Journal #10: Chapter 9 & 10

What made Zach feel like he was disappointing everyone?

Journal #11: Chapter 11 & 12

Why is Zach working for Sam?

Journal #12: Chapter 13 & 14

What does “Benat” mean in Basque? How does this reflect the grandfather’s personality? What is something that Catalin discovers about Zach on their trip to the mountain?

Journal #13: Chapter 15

We now realize that Mrs. Osborne made a mistake. What was that mistake? Did you predict earlier in the story that this would be a problem?

Journal #14: Chapter 18

What are some signs that Peter should not trust the man in black? Why do you think Peter decides to work with him anyway?

Journal #15: Chapter 19 & 20

Why does Mrs. Pyle suspect that Zach knows something about the chalkboard messages?

Journal #16: Chapter 22

The last line of the chapter says, "On the way back to the hotel he made one more stop." Where do you predict Sam is going? Why?

Journal #17: Chapter 25

Summarize Sam's trap. What was its design? If you were in Zach's position, would you have figured out the plan as well?

Journal #18:

Are you satisfied with the way the story ended? Why or why not?