ENG 221 Children’s Literature

GUIDED READING CHAPTER NINE

Introduction: Review the outline at the beginning of the chapter to organize your thinking about contemporary realistic fiction

Realism in Contemporary Children’s Literature
• Find the text’s definition of realistic fiction
• What are five values that realistic fiction offers children?
• Consider the question “what is real?”
• Consider the differences between treatment of graphic realism in television and books.
• What is the view of this text concerning stereotyping in contemporary literature?

Becoming One’s Own Person
Skim this section, noting the grouping of themes. Look for books that you will want to read.

Coping with Problems of the Human Condition
• Why should the reading of “problem books” be balanced with other books?
• What are the guidelines for evaluating books on physical disabilities?
• Skim the section for books that you may want to read.

Living in a Pluralistic Society
• Be able to apply the “Guidelines for Evaluating Minority Literature.”
• Skim this section for books that might be of interest to you.

Popular Types of Realistic Fiction
• What is the value of children reading popular fiction if it is not high quality literature?
• Skim this section for suggestions for further reading.

WEEKLY WRITING

Write a few annotated bibliographies for books that would fit into your Contemporary Realistic Fiction category. Please remember to use the Evaluation Criteria for contemporary realistic fiction on page 477.

Draw from one of the activities on page 531 “Into the Classroom” for Contemporary Realistic Fiction and essay a response to ideas that these projects prompt.

Develop your own focus question related to CRF and essay your response.