

5th Grade Reading Project
Summer 2022

“The Homework Machine”

By Dan Gutman

After reading the novel, answer the following questions. You may write your responses on loose-leaf paper or type and print it out. Please answer each question using complete sentences with accurate spelling, correct capitalization, and proper punctuation.

Illustrations must be colored and on white, unlined paper.



****This Summer Reading Project is due the second day of school!****

1. List the four 5th grade students who are the main characters in “The Homework Machine.” Write a 3-5 sentence paragraph for each character describing their physical appearance and personality characteristics.
2. Describe the fifth grade teacher, Miss Rasmussen. Do you think she is a good teacher? Why or why not? Give examples from the text to support your answer.
3. Draw a picture of what you think the Homework Machine looks like. Write a paragraph that includes the answers to the following questions: *Who invented the homework machine? Why was it created? What was it named? How did it work? Explain why it needed to be modified and updated periodically.*
4. Answer the following questions about the conclusion of the story: *What happens to the homework machine in the end? What happens to the students? How did they get caught? Who was the mysterious man that kept following them and what did he want? What do you think will happen to the D-Squad in 6th grade?*
5. This book was written in a very different style than most books. Explain what you think the author’s purpose was for writing the story in this way.
6. Design and build your own homework machine to present to the class. You may use any sort of “building materials” you want (shoe boxes, old electronics, legos, etc.). Then write a 3-5 sentence paragraph describing your machine and how it works. (It doesn’t actually have to work, just describe how it would if it could.) These projects will be shared in class and are due on the first Friday. *Happy Inventing!*

If you have any questions about this assignment, please contact Missy Bushnell (5th grade ELA teacher) at mbushnell@olqhs.org. I will respond as soon as I can!

Happy Reading! 😊

PS – “The Homework Machine” is an AR test! Students will be required to take this AR test within the first week of school. There is also a sequel to this book, “Return of the Homework Machine,” if you want to read more about the D-Squad!