Book Report Format Sheet

Name				
Date				
(5) Title of book				
(5) Author of book				
(15) Plot. Write down a summary of the book in <i>no more than 150 words</i> . Do not write more than what you can fit in the space provided. Make sure that you tell <i>what happened</i> in order from beginning to end. Do not give your opinions of the book or analyze it in anyway. Save that information for the "theme" part of the book report. Thus, do not begin with such statements as "This book is about the affection of a girl for her pet pig," or "E.B. White's story of the Arable farm is interesting." Begin the summary by immediately telling the story, as if you yourself were the author: "Wilbur is a small, weak pig—the runt of the litter. Fern protests, however, that this is not reason enough to have him killed…" If you read a collection of stories, write about <i>one story</i> . Be sure to write the summary in the present				
tense.				

	(5) Genre. Is your book fic	tion	or non-tiction? (Circle one) Also, indicate the
spec	cific genre of your book (Check		
	historical fiction		scientific history (astronomy, sociology,
	biography		etc.)
	autobiography		fantasy
	general history		adventure
	mystery/detective		historical
	novel		other
	(15) Character Developme	nt. \	Who is the main character in this story? In complete
sent	tences, write down what the cha	ract	er looks like. Also, write down the character's
			character (brave, shy, etc.) Remember to use a
•	, , , ,		at you say. An example the character's personality
-			n idea of the paragraph is printed in bold. The main
	•		d a quotation. Look at the following example:
	,		
	, ,		pig. He does not know the ways of the world,
			of life, especially the cruel facts of life. In one
	•		our thinks that he can make a web. With some
	·		ound, thinking he can artfully spin like a spider.
			chides him, "You can't spin a web, Wilbur"
			at her egg sac, she sounds sad. Wilbur not does
	•		nd's sorrow; he does not know that she will not
		hen	she finally tells him about her coming death,
	Wilbur makes a scene		

(15) Conflict						
Check off the type of conflict contained in the work and give one sentence explanation. A						
conflict is the difficulty or obstacle that a protagonist (the main character) must struggle with.						
Often the three fundamental conflicts are summarized as man vs. man, man vs. himself, and						
man vs. his environment. A conflict that is man vs. man involves opposition from an enemy;						
that enemy (called an antagonist) could be one person or an entire society (Example: A kn tries to rescue his king from an enemy kingdom). A conflict that <i>is man vs. himself</i> involve inner struggle, such as in the mind or spirit (Example: a child who must decide whether to						
						follow his friends or his conscience). Lastly, a conflict that is man vs. environment involves
						adverse circumstances or a struggle with the elements of "nature" (Examples: climbing a
mountain, dealing with poverty, etc.) The book may have more than one conflict.						
man vs. man						
man vs. himself						
man vs. environment						
(15) Setting. In a few sentences write down where and when the action of the book takes place						

(20) Theme. Did the story or the characters change the way you think about things?				
What did you learn from reading the book? What is the author trying to say through his				
story? How does the author's plot, characters or symbols tell his meaning? Answer one or				
more of these questions in a paragraph of about three to five sentences. An example follows.				
In his children's book <i>Charlotte's Web</i> , E.B. White writes about the pangs of				
growing up. Both the pig Wilbur and Fern, the little girl on the farm, are young				
and innocent, but soon must face the difficulties and pain of getting older and				
more aware of the world and its unpleasant aspects. They learn the bitter facts				
of life, like the fact that all people and living things must die.				
(5) Bibliography. Write down the author's name, title of the book, place of				
publication, publisher, and date of publication.				
If the book is a re-print or new edition of a classic, follow the second example.				
White, E.B. <i>Charlotte's Web</i> . New York: Harper Collins,1952.				
Browning, Robert. <i>The Ring and the Book.</i> 1868-69; New Ed. New York: Heritage Press, 1949.				