

Real Name _____

Stargirl Nickname _____

Stargirl

Complete these assignments in order. Except where otherwise noted, all written work is to be done in the **Journal section of your English Binder: Title and date each entry**. Keep this page at the front of your Journal section and check off each assignment as you complete it. *Reflections* should be on (and fill) their own page. *Study Questions* should also be on their own page to keep your responses in order; they include a quote, page #, and a short explanation.

_____ **Word Pool:** Fill a page with descriptive, powerful words. Besides adjectives, be sure to include specific nouns and action verbs. (Reference: *Poemcrazy* by Susan Goldsmith Woolridge)

_____ **Vocabulary #1: hoax, nonconformity, saguaro, balk, paleontologist, orate**

For each word, write a sentence that clearly illustrates you know what the word means.

_____ **Read "Porcupine Necktie" + Chapters 1 & 2.**

_____ ***Stargirl* Reflection:** If this school had a show like *Hot Seat*, which three students would you want to see on it? Why? (Fill the page!)

_____ **Read Chapter 3.**

_____ ***Stargirl* Triptych:** In Chapter 3, Leo follows *Stargirl* into the desert. Since Leo is the first-person narrator, we only know what he is thinking during this scene. Let's examine some of the other possible points of view. Select some cool, poetic words from your wordpool and write a triptych (three short poems) that represents other points of view in the scene: *Stargirl*, a third-person omniscient narrator, and one of your choice. Weave this image into each of the poems to give them something in common even though they are all from different points of view: "She was walking directly into the setting sun, now a great orange perched atop the mountain crests" (p.17). Don't use the same words, but make sure each poem refers to that image of the sun over the desert mountains.

_____ **Read Chapters 4 & 5.**

_____ ***Stargirl* Imagery:** Review the first five chapters of *Stargirl*. Find a descriptive image you like. Draw it on a separate/blank page in the Writing Notebook. No words allowed except the page # where you found the image.

_____ **Read Chapter 6.**

_____ ***Stargirl* Reflection:** Describe an adult other than a parent who has been an advisor to you during a difficult or frustrating time. What qualities are necessary in such an advisor? Discuss. (Fill the page!)

_____ **Read Chapter 7.**

_____ **Study Question:** "Keep looking at her long enough. One day you might see someone you know." Who? Copy and explain this quotation from page 35.

_____ **Read Chapter 8.**

_____ **Study Question:** "But we also gave something to ourselves." What? Copy and explain this quotation from page 39.

_____ **Read Chapter 9.**

_____ **Vocabulary #2: amorphous, inquisition, spiel, impromptu, raucous, ferocity**

For each word, write a sentence that clearly illustrates you know what the word means.

_____ ***Stargirl* Reflection:** If, like *Stargirl*, you decided to change your name to something more descriptive of who and what you are, what would your new name be? Why? Explain. (Fill the page!)

_____ **Read Chapters 10 – 13.**

_____ **Vocabulary #3: mica, ocotillo, serene (serenity), derelict, rapture, facetious** For each word, write a sentence that clearly illustrates you know what the word means.

_____ **Read Chapters 14 – 16.**

_____ **Study Question:** "She was the opposite of cool; she held nothing back." Copy and explain this statement from page 78.

_____ **Read Chapter 17.**

_____ **“The Way to _____” Poem** (Reference: "The Way to Start a Day" by Byrd Baylor): Stargirl seems to find special insight and inner peace by "erasing herself" through meditation. Consider a simple activity in which you find peace and insight into Life and the world. Using some fresh words from your word pool, write a non-literal poem describing the way to do that simple activity. Instead of just listing the steps involved, describe the process from the inside. Create metaphors to explain the thoughts and emotions that the activity conjures in you. (See examples.)

_____ **Read Chapter 18.**

_____ **Study Question:** If the events of the novel *Stargirl* (up to page 99) happened at this school, which of the characters in the story would you be? Explain.

_____ **Read Chapters 19 – 22.**

_____ **Vocabulary #4: disparage, festooned, moa, jostling, gander, preamble**

For each word, write a sentence that clearly illustrates you know what the word means.

_____ **Read Chapters 23 & 24.**

_____ **Study Question** (p. 126): "I never realized how much I needed the attention of others to confirm my own presence." Is this true? Do we need such attention? Why? What quality has Leo discovered in himself?

_____ **Read Chapter 25.**

_____ **Stargirl Reflection:** How many pebbles are in your happy wagon today? Why? Do you have ninth-grade-itis? Are you suffering from shpilkis in your genechtagazoink? Malaise? Ennui? Are you ready for summer? Discuss. (Fill the page!).

_____ **Read Chapter 26.**

_____ **Study Question:** Compare Stargirl and Susan. Which character do you like more? Why?

_____ **Read Chapters 27 – 31.**

_____ **Study Question** (p.170): "...it came to them in small sensations that they were more alone than she was." How? Copy and explain this quotation.

_____ **Finish reading *Stargirl*.**

_____ **Stargirl Comparative Literature Prompt:** Review "The Road Not Taken" by Robert Frost and answer these questions in a short essay: **Which road did Stargirl take? Explain and discuss. What about Leo? Which road will you take?** (Reminder: Even short essays must have an introduction that contains a clear thesis statement, a body that supports the thesis statement with evidence from the novel, and a conclusion.)

_____ **Stargirl Final Exam:** Complete **one** (1) of the following on or before _____.

- a. Create a greeting card for an unusual occasion or a thank you card for someone in the school who deserves to be recognized but isn't. The card will be delivered anonymously, so the recipient's name **MUST** appear clearly and neatly on the card. (Your name should be on a sticky note attached to the card.)
- b. Make me a rock for my "happy wagon." The rock can't weigh any more than a couple ounces or it won't fit in the wagon, so no boulders! Paint an appropriate graphic on it (something we both "get") as well as your name and the date. Make it something for me to remember you by...happily.
- c. Bring a ukulele, guitar, or other musical instrument that is small enough to carry and "serenade" someone in the class. Your serenade should not be longer than 3 minutes, and you must sing (in your own voice with your own accompaniment) loudly enough for everyone to hear.

