TIERED ASSIGNMENTS WITH IDENTIFIED GROUPS

Blue = struggling readers and writers least complex activities

Red = competent readers and writers more complex activities

Green = independent, advanced readers and writers most complex activities

Note: Tiered assignments for the groups are purposefully not listed as "lowest" first.



Newspaper Search Tiered Assignment Example

Use the classroom copies of the *San Jose Mercury News* to respond to the following tasks. Read the directions carefully. Write answers on a separate sheet of paper. Use complete sentences. When you are finished, meet with your group to check your answers. Be prepared to share with the rest of the class what you find.

All students: On the front and back pages of the front section, read "Woman Who Swam from Cuba to Florida." Search the article for facts that include *numbers* in them. Write a good complete *declarative* sentence for each fact. Use lined paper and super-neat handwriting. Blue = three facts; red = four facts; green = five facts.

In addition, groups should do the following tasks.

Red group: Read the article "Coffee Price Rise Trickles" on the front page of the C section. Be sure to read the end of the article on the back page. Write your responses neatly, in complete sentences, on your lined paper.

- 1. Describe reasons why coffee prices are going up.
- 2. Discuss in a few sentences what some companies, like Starbucks, are going to do.
- 3. Predict what coffee drinkers will do if the price goes up.

Green group: Read the article "Nasal Flu Spray" on page 2 of the F section. Write your responses neatly on lined paper.

- 1. Analyze and discuss some hurdles that the manufacturers of the flu spray had to overcome.
- 2. Pretend it is the year 2020. Write a summary of changes and what great or terrible things have occurred for the population since the introduction of the flu spray.

Blue group: Read the article "Surgeons Reattach Boy's Arm" on page 3 of the B section. Answer these questions in complete sentences on your lined paper.

- 1. Describe how the boy's arm was ripped off.
- 2. Tell what the doctors did.
- 3. Explain what the doctors think about his recovery.



Novel Study Tiered Assignment Example

Respond to the following inquiries about *The Big Wave,* by Pearl S. Buck, on another piece of paper.

- · Use complete sentences.
- · Think about your answers.
- · Check your spelling.
- · Use neat handwriting.
- · Organize your paper with care.

All students: Illustrate a favorite scene from the story. Include details and color.

Red group:

- 1. Describe how Jiya acted after the disaster. Explain how you think you might have acted.
- 2. Analyze the ways Kino's family helped Jiya deal with his grief. Evaluate whether they could have done anything else to help.
- 3. Decide whether you liked the book. Write a brief book review for the library.

Blue group:

- 1. Describe the disaster that happened in the story.
- 2. Explain why you think Jiya made the decision that he did.
- 3. Decide whether you liked the book. Explain why or why not.

Green group:

- 1. Compare Jiya and Kino. Describe their similarities and their differences.
- 2. Write a brief epilogue to the story. Predict what you think happened to Jiya and his wife.
- 3. Describe whether you liked the book. Research and write a brief description of the author's background.