

Bak Middle School of the Arts Mandatory Summer Reading Assignment

Grade 7 - Summer 2025

Directions:

Before the first day of school on Monday, August 11, 2025, read the novel *We Beat the Street: How a Friendship Pact Led to Success* by Dr. Sampson Davis, Dr. George Jenkins, and Dr. Rameck Hunt (with Sharon Draper). Then, complete the Radial Symmetry Graph. During the first week of school, you will be given directions on how to submit this assignment on Google Classroom. You will also be given a comprehension test on Friday, August 15th (odd classes) and Monday, August 18th (even classes), so be sure to reread the novel to keep the details fresh in your mind. Students have the option to either purchase the novel or borrow one from the Media Center to ensure they have access to the text. Work that is created using AI (artificial intelligence) will not be accepted.

Radial Symmetry Graph Directions:

While you read the novel, choose an individual, and take notes on the traits that the individual possesses. You can choose an individual who you relate to the most, who faced the biggest challenges, who showed the most resilience, who inspired you the most, whose journey you found most compelling, whose experiences taught you valuable life lessons, or whose actions/decisions you found particularly admirable. Then, based on the meanings of the colors in the symbolism chart below, create a radial symmetry graph to represent the traits of your individual. In addition to the choice of colors, the *amount* of color should be significant. The more dominant a trait that your individual displays, the larger the section of the graph and the more you use the representative color in your design.

Requirements:

- You must use at least **three colors** in your design.
- For each color, you must type a well-written paragraph in a Google Doc explaining your color choice and the amount you used. You must use at least one piece of textual evidence from the story to support your choice. Remember to elaborate on and analyze your evidence.
- If you complete the graph digitally, have the file readily available in your Google drive so that you can easily attach it to the assignment when your teacher posts it in Google Classroom. If you print the graph, use a ruler, neatly color it, and scan the file to your Google drive.

SYMBOLISM CHART

Red	passion, anger, excitement
Pink	love and romance, caring, tenderness
Beige or Ivory	quiet and pleasantness
Yellow	joy, happiness, optimism
Dark Blue	knowledge, power, and seriousness
Blue	peace, tranquility, calmness
Purple	royalty, spirituality, wisdom
Lavender	femininity, grace and elegance
Orange	energy, enthusiasm, vibrance
Green	nature, good luck, generosity, jealousy
Brown	reliability, comfort, endurance
White	simplicity, cleanliness, peace, innocence
Black	power, sophistication, sadness, death
Gray	security, conservative, practical

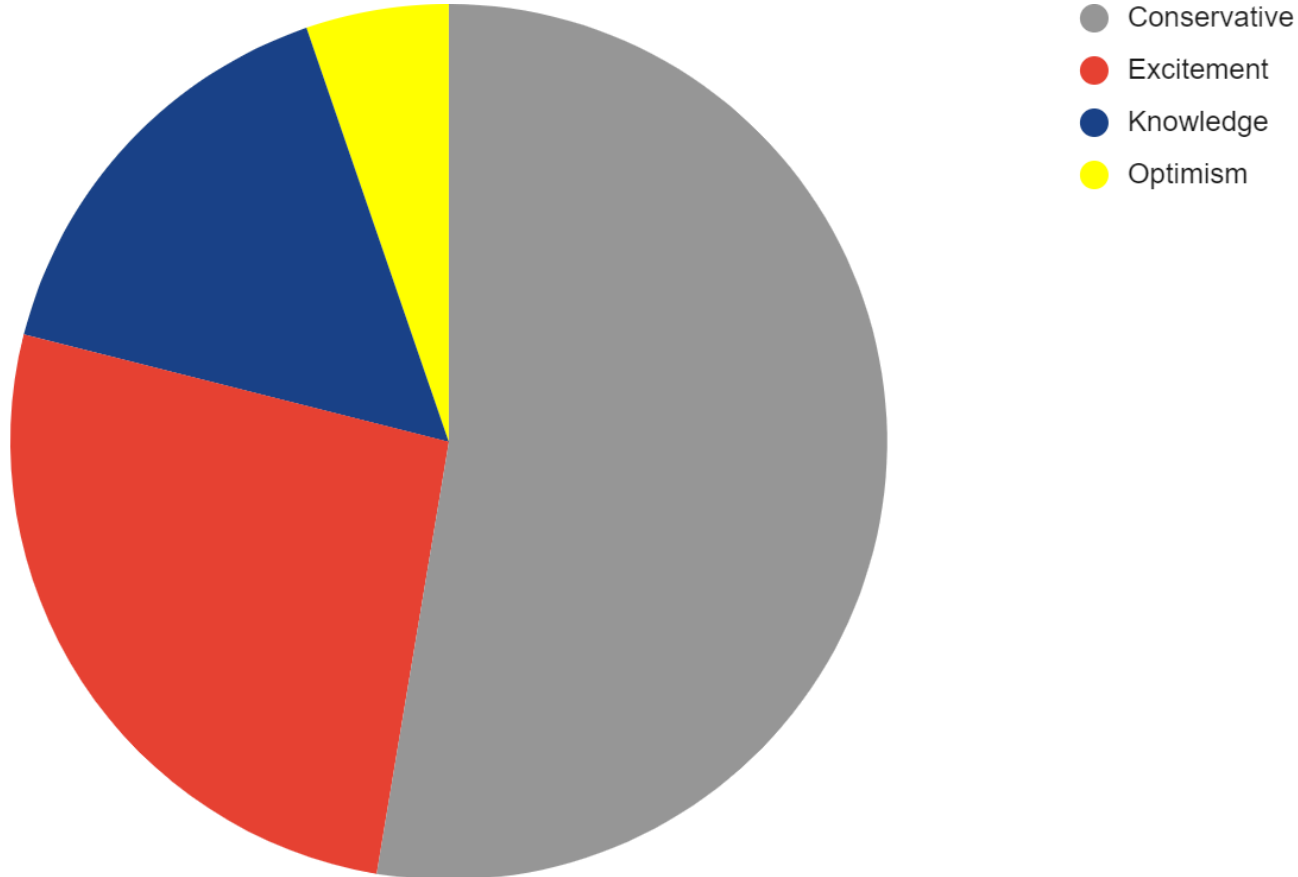
Example paragraph from Rapunzel (See graph below):

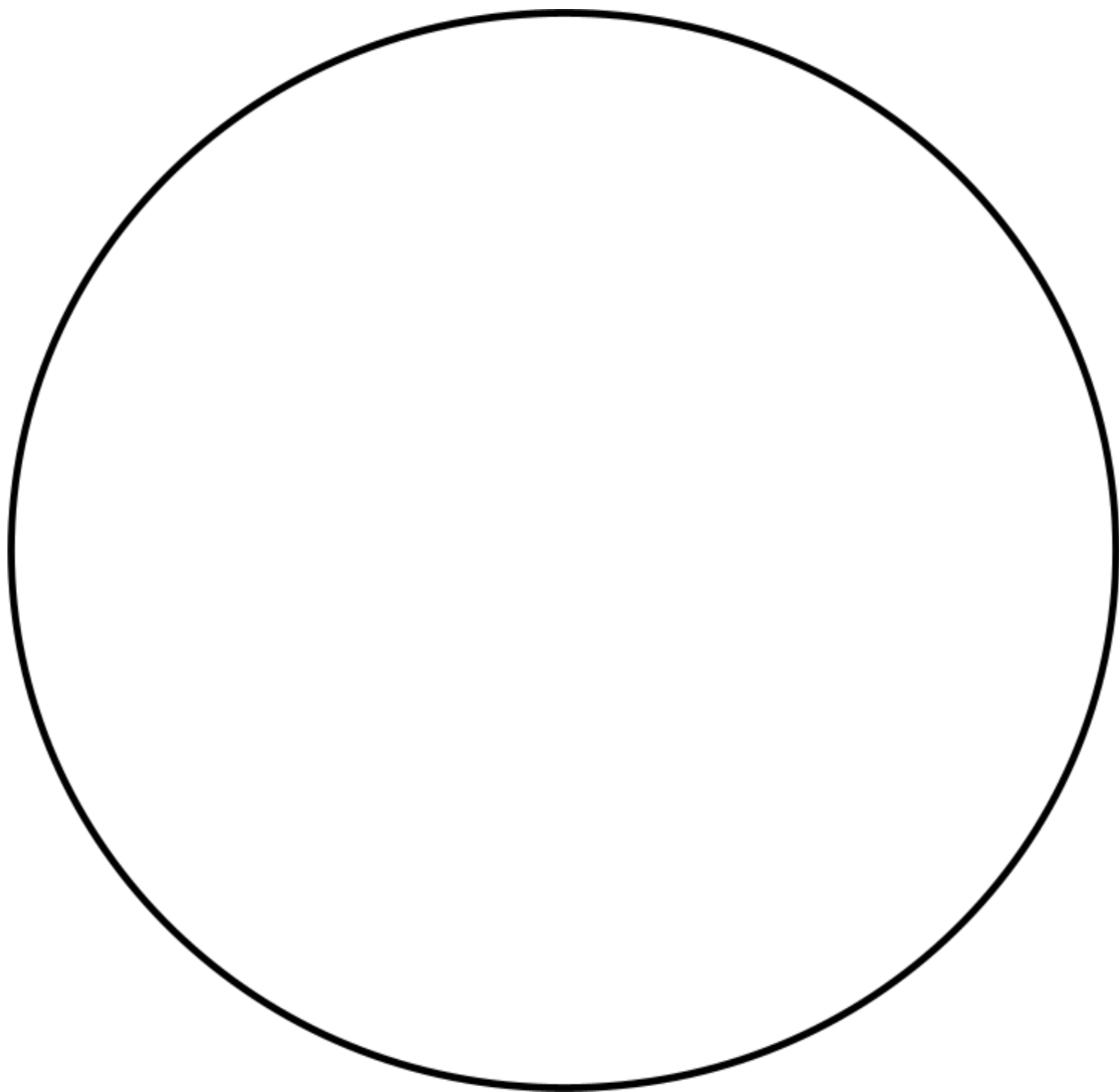
In the symbolism chart, the color **GRAY** represents **security**, and Rapunzel's journey reflects this meaning in a powerful and emotional way. While her tower may have once seemed like a place of protection, Rapunzel ultimately discovers that true security comes not from isolation, but from connection, love, and trust. She finds this sense of security in her relationship with Flynn when she states, "You were my new dream," to which he replies, "And you were mine." She has opened up to him emotionally and has shown him her fears, dreams, and insecurities. He doesn't judge or reject her, but he listens to her, supports her and shows that he understands her feelings. Rapunzel transforms from a sheltered

girl into a confident young woman who has built her own secure foundation based on truth and love. A large portion of my graph is **GRAY** because this theme of security is shown repeatedly throughout. It appears when Flynn shields Rapunzel from danger, when Pascal stays loyally by her side, and when she bravely returns to the kingdom, guided not by fear, but by trust in herself. Even the scene where Rapunzel heals Flynn with her tears shows security. She no longer relies on magic to keep herself or others safe, but on the strength of her love and identity.

**Please note, your paragraph does not need to include every word listed in the symbolism chart for your chosen color.

Radial Symmetry Graph Example from Rapunzel:





SUMMER READING RADIAL SYMMETRY RUBRIC

TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS: 100

	25 pts.	20 pts.	15 pts.	10 pts.
Visual Appeal	Radial Symmetry Graph is neatly and purposefully colored with at least 3 colors that represent 3 traits of the individual.	Radial Symmetry Graph is colored somewhat neatly and purposefully with at least 3 colors that represent 3 traits of the individual.	Radial Symmetry Graph is colored with at least 2 colors that represent 2 traits of the individual.	Radial Symmetry Graph is colored with at least 1 color that represents 1 trait of the individual.
Color Justification & Textual Evidence	One well-written paragraph explanation is given for each color that uses at least one specific piece of textual evidence to support the choice of color.	An explanation is given for each color but may not be fully supported with specific textual evidence.	An explanation is attempted but some textual support may be missing at times or vague.	Attempts at explaining color choices are inadequate and provide no textual support.
Elaboration & Analysis	The textual evidence is thoroughly explained or analyzed.	Textual analysis may be superficial and the elaboration is weak.	Textual analysis may be missing or vague (or difficult to read).	No textual analysis.
Mechanics	Grammatical and mechanical mistakes are virtually non-existent.	Grammatical and mechanical mistakes are minimal .	May contain grammatical and mechanical mistakes.	May have numerous grammatical and mechanical mistakes.