Name: _____ Date Due: _____

8th Grade Language Arts

HW #2

Assignment	Points Earned
Journals 4,5,6,7	
BookBlog #1 – Reading Response	
Article Annotation – Scientists Discover	
Article Analysis	
GL Vocab 101-105	
BookBlog #1 due 8/27	

Total=>

Journal #_____

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Journal #_____

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Journal #_____

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Journal #_____

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Reading Response Choice

Directions: As you read, put a sticky note next to any line, sentence, or section that jumps out at you. Write a brief note on your sticky note so that you can remember what you were thinking about that section. (If nothing jumps out at you by the time you have finished reading, go back and **FIND** something to respond to.)

When finished reading, write your Reading Response on the back of this paper.

YOU MUST:

- Write **at least ten (10) complete sentences** in your Reading Response.
- Give the **page number, paragraph, or line number** of the part you are responding to.
- **Highlight** which Reading Response entry you are using from the list below.

Types of Reading Response Entries

1. **Interesting Intro or Clever Conclusion:**
   You think the author's introduction or conclusion interesting, clever, engaging, or effective. Tell what technique the author used and why it works so well.

2. **Give an Opinion:**
   Tell what you think or feel about a certain part of the story, and why you think or feel that way. Be specific.

3. **Ask a Question:**
   This can be a basic question about something you don't understand in the text, or a larger question (about life, literature, or anything) that the text made you consider. Explore possible answers to the question.

4. **Make a Connection:**
   As you read, a certain point in the text reminds you of another story, poem, movie, song, or something from real life. How are the two alike?

5. **Language Recognition:**
   You notice some appropriate sensory details, or figurative language such as a simile, onomatopoeia, or personification, and so on. What is the language, and how does it add to the story?

6. **Significant Passage:**
   You realize a certain part in the text is important. Maybe you found the climax. Why do you think it's important? What does it mean? What does it tell you about the entire book? Explain **why** it is so important.

7. **Find Foreshadowing:**
   You read something that seems like a hint of what will come later. Explain why you think this, and make a prediction.

8. **Theme Recognition:**
   You find a sentence or two that might be the theme (the "So what?") of the piece. Explain it in your own words.

9. **Spot the Setting:**
   You notice a part that refers to a particular place or time in the story. Why is it so important to the story?

10. **Character Description:**
    You notice a detail about a character (what he or she looks like, thinks, says, or does). Why is it important? What does it reveal about that character?

11. **Mark the Motivation:**
    You realize a character's motive(s) (what a character wants). Explain the motive(s) and its effect on the story or on other characters.

12. **Detect the Conflict:**
    You realize one of the conflicts or problems in the story. Explain it, and explain how you recognized it.

13. **Cite the Claim:**
    You find the sentence that is the author's main argument (the thesis or claim … the most important quote in the story). Explain why you think it is the focus of the piece.

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Page Number

Scientists Discover The Obvious - Teenage Brains Are Wired To Be Impatient And Impulsive!

By *Shariqua Ahmed* on September 17, 2015

The words teenager and patience are rarely uttered in one sentence. **Adolescents** are well-known for being **irritable**, impulsive, and craving instant **gratification**. According to the researchers from Berlin-based Max Planck Institute for Human Development, it is not because of hormones or that teens like to "act up." It is simply because the structural connections inside their "amygdala" or emotional center of the brain, are still developing, limiting their ability to think ahead about the **consequences** of their actions.

The study that was published in the journal PNAS in May 2015 was led by researcher Wouter van den Bos. It involved 50 individuals between the ages of 8 and 25. Each volunteer was asked the same question - Would you rather have €20 now or €50 in a month? As expected, the impatient adolescents mostly opted for the instant cash.

Curious to see if there was a scientific reason for this **predictable** choice, the scientists used magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) to measure the activity and structural **connectivity** of the regions involved in the decision-making process. Sure enough, there was a difference in how the adult and teenage brains functioned.

Whenever we make a decision, two critical areas of the brain are involved. The *dorsolateral prefrontal cortex* that plans for the future, and the *striatum* that **evaluates** the rewards of the decision. In teenagers, the connection between the two is still developing. Therefore, the dorsolateral prefrontal cortex's influence on deciding which is the better **option** is somewhat limited. Hence, teens choose things that are instantly gratifying and get irritable when prevented from doing so.

According to Wouter van den Bos, "It's not that adolescents don't plan for the future at all. But when they make decisions, they focus much more on the here and now." The researcher says that "Adolescence is a training ground for the brain. (However), although it's more difficult for adolescents to decide against short-term rewards, they are capable of doing so."

A 2012 study by Cornell University **neuroscientist** B.J. Casey came to a similar conclusion. The researcher said that teens are not reckless because they **underestimate** the risks, but because they find the rewards "more rewarding" than adults. Another study discovered that the "rewards" section of teen brains lights up even brighter when there is a peer watching, causing them to take unnecessary risks.

But like Wouter van den Bos, B.J. Casey also concluded that when teens take a moment to think, they are as capable of making **rational** decisions as adults. So the next time you are planning on doing something impulsive, take a step back and think - Is the reward worth the risk?

Article Title: _____