

# Hingham High School Summer Reading Note-Taking Guide

- Taking notes on your summer reading book is **optional**, but taking notes can help you comprehend more of what you read and notice distinctive elements of the text.
- Any notes you take will not be graded; however, you can use your own original notes to support your participation on an in-class assessment such as a student-led discussion.
- This note-taking guide begins with a few targeted questions for your grade-wide read that your teacher may discuss with you in class; the rest of the guide asks you to note your own observations, questions, and responses to the text.
- You may print the guide and hand write your responses, or you may type your responses.

## Grade 12 Summer Reading Note-taking Guide

**Book Title: *Born a Crime***

**Author: Trevor Noah**

**Essential Points to Ponder:**

*These questions may be discussed in class when you return to school. Consider these questions as you take notes on the categories in the charts below.*



1. What role does being mixed race play in Trevor's life? How did Trevor have to navigate multiple groups, cultures, and identities?
2. How would you describe Patricia and Robert, Trevor's parents? How did they each impact Trevor's outlook on life differently?
3. In what ways do the differing values of patriarchy and matriarchy play a role in Trevor's life and in the South African communities he describes?
4. How does language play a role in Trevor's life?
5. A lot of this story is told with humor, even though many things were very dark. Would you consider Trevor an optimist? Does the book convey more triumph? Or tragedy?

### **Characters: Choose 3 characters that had a significant role in the text**

Character's Name	“In the beginning of the book, this character seemed...”	“By the end of the book, this character was...”	What were some reasons for a change (or a lack of change) in this character?
<b>1.</b>			
<b>2.</b>			
<b>3.</b>			

**Plot & Story: Choose a moment in the text for at least two of these categories**

1. A moment in the story that intrigued me or made me want to know more	
2. A moment in the story that confused me	
3. A moment in the story that contained intense emotion	
4. A moment in the story that left me feeling satisfied or unsatisfied as a reader	

**Style & Figurative Elements: Choose at least two of these categories.**

1. Describe a potential symbol that appeared multiple times in the text.	
2. How does setting or a character's surroundings affect the story?	
3. What order was the story told in? Was it chronological? Were there flashbacks? Did that keep you interested in the story?	
4. Did you notice any other literary techniques, such as irony, figurative language, or a distinct tone of voice? Anything else unique about the writing style or figurative language in the text?	

**Conflict & Resolution**

1. What was the most significant conflict in the story?	
2. Were you satisfied with how the conflict(s) were resolved?	
3. What do you still want to know or understand about the	

conflicts in the text?	
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### **Personal Responses**

*Adapted from Disrupting Thinking, Beers & Probst*

- While reading this book, I was surprised by...
- This book challenged or confirmed my thinking about...
- How this book connects to me or people I know....
- This book made me think about the importance of...
- After reading this book, I want to know more about...

