

Period: _____

All About Me...

My name is: _____ I like to be called: _____

Right now, I'm _____ years old, and my birthday is _____

I live with (names and relation to you): _____

I was born in (city): _____ I moved here (year): _____

My home phone number is: _____ Cell: _____

My email address is: _____ Parent's email: _____

My best subject in school: _____

My most difficult subject: _____

My favorite kind of music is: _____

My favorite song right now is: _____

My favorite after-school activity is: _____

My favorite book is: _____ because _____

One thing I can do very well is: _____

One thing I'd really like to improve at is: _____

One thing that makes me happy is: _____

I get upset when: _____

Someday, I hope to: _____

All About Me... Cont'd

My favorite memory is: _____

This summer, I: _____

My philosophy on life is: _____

One thing I am really looking forward to this year is: _____

One thing I am really dreading about this year is: _____

One thing I want the teacher to know about me is: _____

Questions I have for the teacher are: _____

READING INVENTORY

Below are a number of statements that will help me learn more about your experiences with and attitudes about reading—both inside and outside the classroom. Score each statement on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 being strongly dislike, to 5, strongly like. The higher the score, the more positive you feel about the statement. There are no right or wrong answers. Just be honest with your responses.

	Strongly Dislike				Strongly Like
RECREATIONAL READING:					
How do you feel about...					
	1	2	3	4	5
Reading at home in your free time					
Reading at school during free time					
Reading on vacation					
Getting a book for a present					
Going to a bookstore					
Starting a new book					
Reading paper books, magazines, etc.					
Reading electronic books, magazines, etc.					
Discussing what I've read with friends					
TOTAL SCORE: _____					
ACADEMIC READING:					
How do you feel about...					
	1	2	3	4	5
Reading for school					
Learning new content from a book					
Reading out loud in class					
Silently reading in class					
Reading in pairs or small groups in class					
Encountering new words in school reading					
Using a dictionary or thesaurus					
Discussing what I've read in class					
Taking reading tests					
TOTAL SCORE: _____					

Writing Inventory

Below are a number of statements that will help me learn more about your attitudes about writing—both inside and outside the classroom. Score each statement on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 for strongly disagree, to 5, strongly agree. The higher the score, the more positive your feeling about the statement.

**Strongly
Disagree**

**Strongly
Agree**

RECREATIONAL WRITING	1	2	3	4	5
I like to write in my spare time.					
I like to keep a journal.					
I like to write letters or notes to people.					
I like texting, tweeting and/or posting my comments on Facebook.					
I have little trouble with coming up with ideas to write about.					
I like to write stories or poems.					
I like to write about real people/events.					
I like experimenting with new words.					
I feel confident about my writing.					
I like sharing my writing with others.					
TOTAL SCORE: _____					
ACADEMIC WRITING	1	2	3	4	5
I like writing assignments in school.					
I prefer expressing myself through writing vs. speaking in school.					
I like persuading others through my writing.					
I like creative writing assignments—stories, poems, etc.					
I like researching and writing a report on a topic I am interested in.					
I like using new vocabulary words I learn.					
I feel comfortable with writing assignments.					
I have little trouble starting a writing assignment.					
I like to clearly organize my ideas before writing.					
I like sharing my school writing with others.					
TOTAL SCORE: _____					

Vocabulary Inventory

Below is a list of words we will frequently use in the classroom over the coming year. Rate your level of comfort with each on a scale of 1 to 4, scoring 1 for words you have not seen before and do not understand, and up to 4 for words you understand so well that you can use them in a sentence. For those words scoring a 3 or 4, write a definition or synonym in your own words. Two examples have been done for you.

WORD	1 I do not recognize this word	2 I've seen this word but don't know what it means.	3 I've seen this word and I think it means...	4 I know this word. It means...
comprehend				<i>understand</i>
synthesize		X		
evaluate				
analyze				
cite				
symbolize				
verify				
validate				
summarize				
theme				
objective				
subjective				
perception				
assess				
TOTAL SCORE: _____				

LEARNING STYLE INVENTORY

The survey below can help you better understand how you prefer to learn and process information. Answer the questions as honestly as you can. In the columns provided, write a score of 3 for every "often" response, 2 for every "sometimes," and 1 for every "never."

	Often (3)	Sometimes (2)	Never (1)
I remember information better if I write it down.			
I prefer to see information written on a board or presented with visual aids.			
I think the best way to remember something is to picture it in my head.			
I need a quiet place to get my work done.			
I prefer getting information about an interesting topic by reading about it.			
SECTION 1 SCORE:			
I can better remember information when I hear someone lecture about it or discuss it.			
If I hear something, I will remember it.			
I follow oral instructions more easily than written ones.			
I enjoy talking about topics that interest me.			
I learn to spell better by repeating words aloud rather than by writing them on paper.			
SECTION 2 SCORE:			
I enjoy working with my hands or making things.			
I start a project before reading the instructions.			
I type my class notes or rewrite them to help me remember the material.			
I enjoy and am good at making charts and graphs.			
I like to chew gum, snack and/or move around while studying.			
SECTION 3 SCORE:			

LEARNING STYLE RESULTS

Total the score for each section. The highest of the three scores helps determine your most effective way of learning information:

- A higher score in **section 1** indicates you may be a **visual learner**; that is, you learn best through reading, observing, and/or seeing graphics or pictures.
- A higher score in **section 2** indicates you may be an **auditory learner**; that is, you learn best through listening and discussion.
- A higher score in **section 3** indicates you may be a **tactile learner**; that is, you learn best through touching and physical participation in activities.

If scores in multiple categories are close or equal, it may indicate strengths in all.

Helpful Hints and Learning Strategies

Determining where your learning strengths lie can help you strategize the best ways for you to obtain, process and retain information. Below are some hints to help you maximize your learning potential.

Visual Learner Tips

Be sure to take notes when learning new information. Making pictures, graphs and/or flashcards can be very helpful. Connect new information with images—picture them in your head and draw them when possible. Using color coding and highlighting can also be beneficial.

Auditory Learner Tips

When learning new information, say it or read it aloud. If you are unable to speak aloud while studying, say the words silently in your head. Read your own writing aloud. Record class lectures when possible. Discuss what you learned with your classmates. Study with others and review information orally.

Tactile Learner Tips

When studying, try to involve multiple senses—seeing, hearing, touching, etc.—as much as possible. Write down new information, then rewrite, type or trace over the information while studying. Use models, real objects, materials that can be touched as well as role-playing. Divide your studying into short sessions and move around in between them. Keep your space clear of distractions.

Reflective Writing Activity

Letter to Myself

Think about your life, where it is today and where you want it to go tomorrow. Who is your best friend and why? What is your greatest hope? Your biggest fear? Reflect on those things most important to you personally. Now, write a private letter to yourself, one that you will revisit at the end of our school year. You may be surprised to see how much you've changed!

The letter must include the following five sections:

- **ME NOW:** What are my hopes, fears, aspirations, joys and frustrations? What do I like about myself? What am I proud of? What would I like to change?
- **MY WORLD:** What is my home like? My school and neighborhood? What are my favorite places to go? What are my favorite songs, movies and shows?
- **WHAT I DO:** What are my favorite hobbies, pastimes, sports and school activities? What do I like to do alone or with my friends? How do I spend my free time and weekends?
- **PEOPLE IN MY LIFE:** What is my family like? Who are my best friends, boyfriend or girlfriend? Who are my most/least favorite teachers? Who would I like to get to know better? Who annoys me?
- **MY FUTURE:** What do I want to do in my future? What are my aspirations for this school year? What are my hopes for the world?

Please note: As your teacher, I will not read your letter. This assignment is for your own personal reflection. You may seal the letter if you wish to ensure your privacy.

DIG DEEP AND CREATE SOMETHING MEANINGFUL TO YOU!