LICEO SCIENTIFICO STATALE ALBERT EINSTEIN – MILANO

Compiti di Lingua Inglese per le vacanze estive, Classe 2 B

Docente: Daniele Giusto

Summer Homework - English

Second-year Classes | A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness

Main goal: read a complete book in English, understand the story, collect useful vocabulary, and express your personal response clearly and respectfully.

1. Required reading

Read *A Monster Calls* by Patrick Ness.

2. Main activities

- A complete Reading Journal.
- Two short written reflections, 100-120 words each.
- Vocabulary work: 10 useful words or expressions from the novel.
- Careful revision of the language topics studied during the school year.

3. Reading Journal

Complete all the sections below. Write clearly and use your own words as much as possible.

Part A - The story

1. Who is Conor?
2. What is happening in his family?
3. What problems does he have at school?
4. When does the monster appear?
5. Is the monster frightening, helpful, or both? Explain briefly.

Part B - Characters

Complete the table.

Character	3 adjectives	Role in the story
Conor		
The monster		
Conor's mother		
Conor's grandmother		
Lily		

Part C - The monster's stories

Choose two of the monster's stories. For each story, answer the questions below.

1. What happens in the story?
2. What lesson does the story teach?
3. Why does the monster tell this story to Conor?

Part D - Vocabulary

Write down 10 useful words or expressions from the book. For each one, write the Italian meaning and one original sentence in English.

Word / expression	Meaning	My sentence

Part E - Key moments

Choose three important moments from the novel. For each moment, answer the questions below.

1. What happens?
2. Why is this moment important?
3. How does Conor feel?

4. Short written insights

Choose two questions and answer each one in 100-120 words.

Do not simply retell the plot. Express your opinion clearly and support it with examples from the novel.

1. Is the monster a frightening creature or a helper? Explain your opinion with examples from the story.
2. Why is it so difficult for Conor to tell the truth?
3. What do the monster's stories help Conor understand?
4. Does the novel show that growing up means accepting painful truths?

Suggested structure

- Opening sentence: state your opinion clearly.
- Explanation: give one or two reasons.
- Evidence: refer to at least one moment or character from the novel.
- Final comment: conclude your reflection briefly.

5. Language revision

You are strongly advised to revise all the language topics studied during the school year. Use your textbook, workbook, notebook and the materials provided by the teacher on Google Classroom.

Recommended revision work

- Review grammar rules and examples studied in class.
- Redo selected exercises from the textbook and workbook, especially the ones you found difficult.
- Review vocabulary units and word lists.
- Revise writing structures used during the year, including paragraph writing and argumentative writing.
- Check the materials uploaded by the teacher on Classroom.

6. Work after the summer

At the beginning of the school year, the Reading Journal may be checked and discussed in class. You may also be asked to take part in a short discussion or write a short paragraph about the novel.

Possible discussion questions

1. What is Conor really afraid of?
2. Why does the monster tell stories?
3. Is the monster good or bad?
4. Why is the truth so painful?
5. Which scene did you find most powerful?

Final reminder: The purpose of this summer work is to revise, read, understand, think and write in English, other than enjoy the pleasure of reading.