

# SUMMER READING

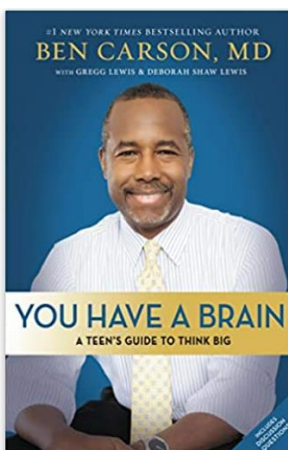
## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade English Summer Reading Assignment

---

This summer, you will be required to read the book *You Have a Brain: A Teen's Guide to Think Big*. I have provided a list of questions that will be useful for this assignment. While reading, keep notes that you can use later when writing your answers to each question. You need text evidence for your response questions so make sure you are marking down page numbers and direct quotes. There will be a test over the material in this book on Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>.

### Literary Questions

1. Has anyone ever asked you, “Do you have a brain? Or something similar? IF you were asked that question now, after you’ve finished this book, how would you respond?”
  2. Is there someone in your life who believes in you even after you make a mistake? Why do you think that person is always there for you? How can you live up to their expectations?
  3. God gave you your brain for a reason. What do you think your brain is for? What are you best at? What kind of career could you see yourself having in the future? How will you get there?
  4. Have you ever had a teacher like Mr. Jaeck or Mrs. Miller, someone who helped you develop a strong interest in a subject and/or helped you grow your confidence? If you haven’t, what would you want your mentor to be like? How would he or she help you?
  5. Dr. Carson read a lot of books when he was young – at least two a week, and that was on top of homework and chores! How many books do you read in a week or in a month? What kinds of books do you like to read most? Which books have stuck with you long after you finished the last page?
  6. Have you ever set a goal – like Dr. Carson’s goal to become a neurosurgeon – where the odds seemed stacked against you? Maybe someone said “you’re not smart enough for that” or “only boys can play this sport” or “no one else has ever done this before.” How did you react? Did you keep pursuing your goals? If you didn’t would you do things differently now?
  7. Which of Dr. Carson’s THINK BIG topics – Talent, Honesty, Insight, Nice, Knowledge, Books, In-Depth Learning, God – do you think would be easiest for you to live by? Which one would be the hardest? Why?
  8. Now that you’ve read this book, how are you going to THINK BIG in your everyday life?
- 



**Eight proven principles to help you overcome your self-doubt, conquer your fear of the future, reverse negative thoughts about yourself, and hurdle any other obstacles standing between you and your dreams.**

But instead of letting his circumstances control him, Dr. Carson took control of his attitude and actions, leading to his discovery of eight straightforward but revolutionary principles that helped shape his future.

*In You Have a Brain*, Dr. Carson unpacks the eight important parts of T.H.I.N.K. B.I.G.—Talent, Honesty, Insight, Being Nice, Knowledge, Books, In-Depth Learning, and God—and presents the stories of people who demonstrated those things in his life.

Through the advice and real-world examples laid out in these pages, you will learn how to incorporate these T.H.I.N.K. B.I.G. principles into your own life so that you, like Dr. Carson, can embrace an amazing future filled with incredible success.