

St. Hugh Catholic School  
Summer Reading Assignment  
*Chasing Vermeer*  
By: Blue Balliett

Essay Due Date:  
Wednesday, August 17, 2022

Student Name:

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**Directions:** Choose one of the following essay topics and write a well-worded five (5) paragraph essay, using text-evidence, alongside quotes, to support your answer.

1. Explain Charles Fort's basic theory of life and how it relates to events in *Chasing Vermeer*.
2. Calder depends on his pentominoes. Discuss what they are and the ways he uses them over the course of the story.
3. Petra has a way of relating to the world that's different from Calder's. Discuss why she's better suited to communicate with the Lady than he is.
4. Perceiving the underlying pattern of random events is a key theme in the novel. Think of several examples where the children identify these patterns and how the patterns that they identify advance the plot.
5. Ms. Hussey declares that the letter is dead. Events in *Chasing Vermeer* tend to contradict her view. Give examples of the ways that correspondence factors into the story.











