



GETTING STARTED

Student Guide



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TUTORIAL (VIDEO)

How to Log In & Navigate Your StudySync Account

► [Watch the video “Students: How to Log In & Navigate Your StudySync Account”](#) in addition to these instructions for a demonstration of how to navigate your account.



LOGGING INTO YOUR STUDENT ACCOUNT

Each school district sets up the login for StudySync, so the process may vary.

Log In Methods

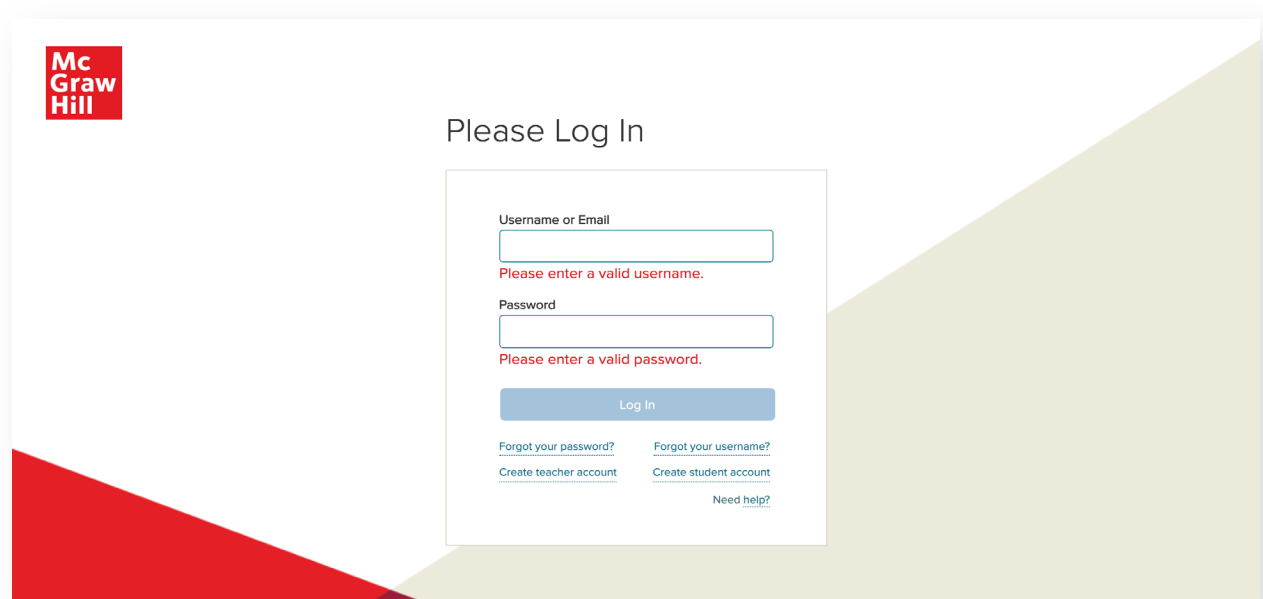
You will log into your account via **one** of the following two options. Contact your teacher to learn how you should be logging in.

Option 01: Through a portal (no username and password)

- You may be logging in through a portal that your school has set up for you. If so, follow your teacher's instructions on where to go.

Option 02: Through McGraw Hill's website (with a username and password)

- You may need to go to the McGraw Hill Education website and enter the username and password that your teacher has given you in order to log in.
 - Go to the MHE log in page: my.mheducation.com
 - Enter your username and password.
 - If you have forgotten your password, go to your teacher. Your teacher can provide you with a temporary password that will allow you to change your password after you log in.
 - Click **Log In**.



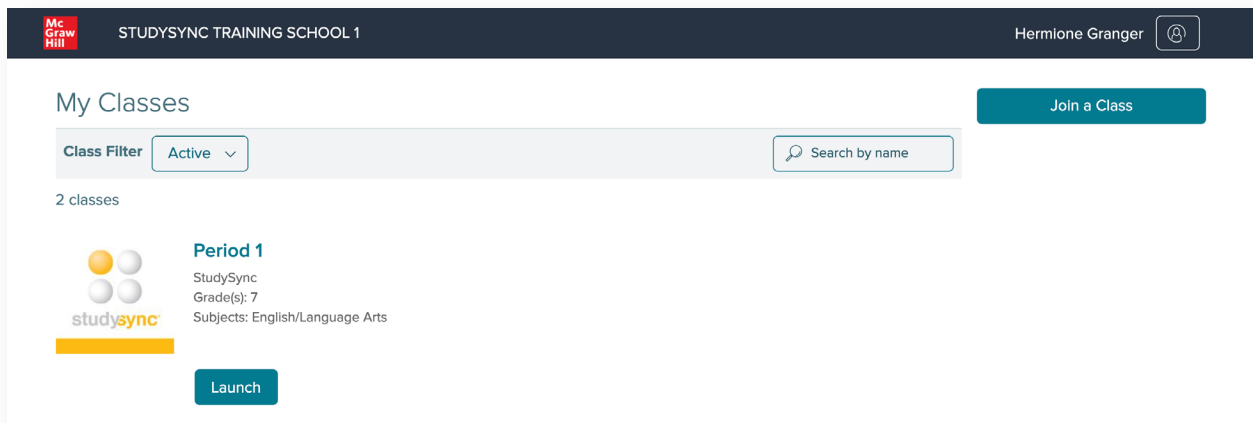
Note: Most likely, your account was already set up and you will be logging in via one of the above methods. In some cases, you may be asked to create your own student account. To create your own account, you must have received instructions and codes from your teacher.

If so, follow these instructions, but only if you have been asked to do so!

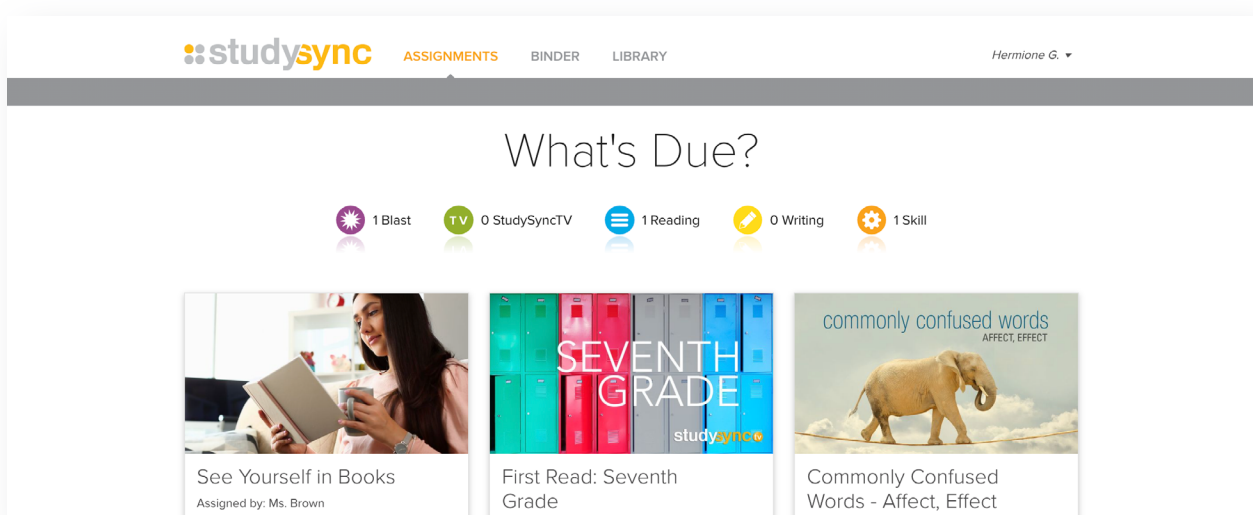
[Click here for instructions on how to create your own account.](#)

Launch Your Class

- 1 Click the **Launch** button under your class name (next to the StudySync logo).

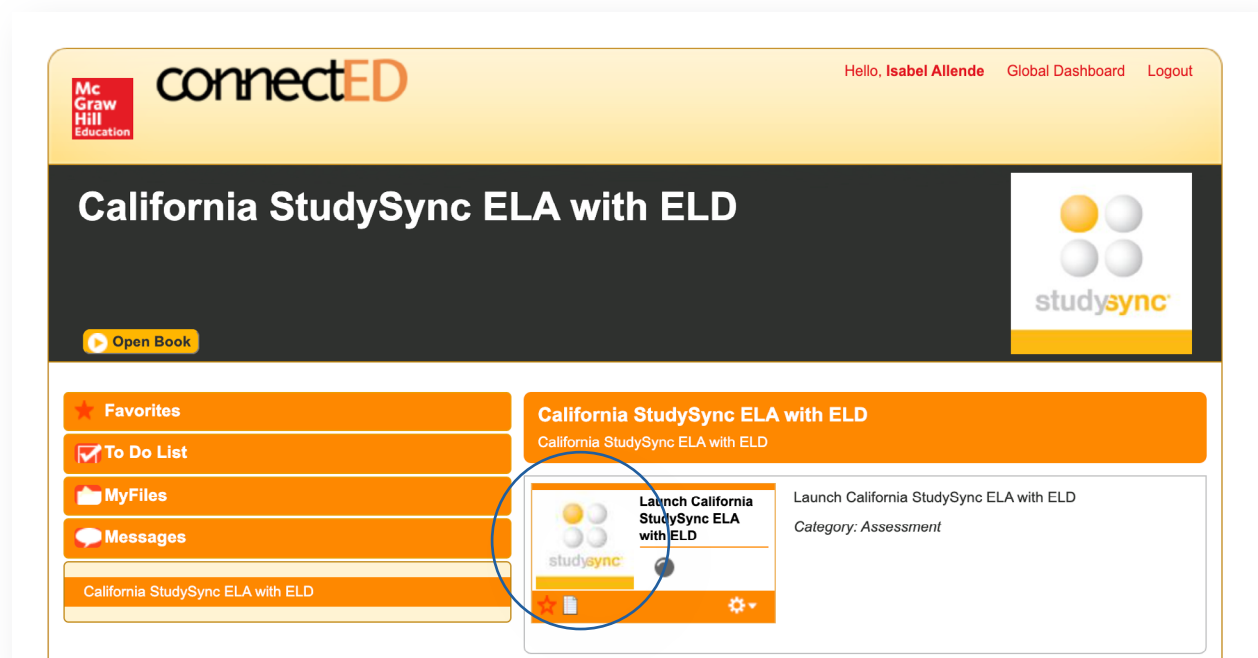


- 2 Your StudySync student account will open in a new tab!



Trouble-shooting:

- 1 If you do not have a class with a StudySync logo listed under My Classes, talk to your teacher. Your teacher can add you to a class or they may give you a code to use with the **Join a Class** button.
- 2 If you click launch and are taken to a second page:
 - Please click the **StudySync logo** next to the word Launch.



- Then your StudySync account will open in a new tab!

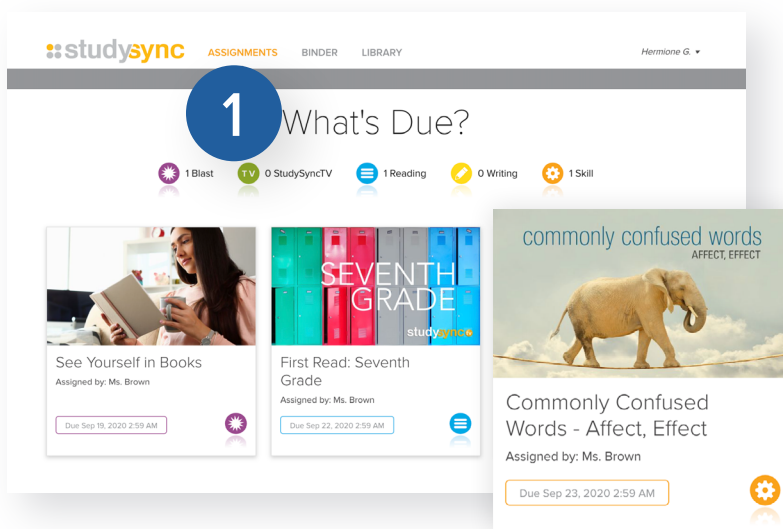
Now you are in your StudySync student account. Welcome!

Here you will see 3 navigation tabs across the top of the screen—**Assignments**, **Binder**, **Library**—and your name in the upper right corner.

The screenshot shows the StudySync student account dashboard. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the StudySync logo, three tabs: "ASSIGNMENTS" (highlighted in orange), "BINDER", and "LIBRARY", and the user's name "Hermione G." with a dropdown arrow. Below the navigation bar, a large white area contains a welcome message: "Hi, Hermione! Welcome back to StudySync." Underneath this, a section titled "WHAT'S DUE" displays five icons with their respective counts: a purple starburst for "1 Blast", a green TV icon for "0 StudySyncTV", a blue menu icon for "1 Reading", a yellow pencil for "0 Writing", and an orange gear for "1 Skill". Below this are three assignment cards. The first card, "See Yourself in Books", features a photo of a student reading and is due on Sep 19, 2020 at 2:59 AM, with a purple starburst icon. The second card, "First Read: Seventh Grade", features a photo of colorful lockers and is due on Sep 22, 2020 at 2:59 AM, with a blue menu icon. The third card, "Commonly Confused Words - Affect, Effect", features a photo of an elephant on a tightrope and is due on Sep 23, 2020 at 2:59 AM, with an orange gear icon. All assignments are listed as being assigned by Ms. Brown.

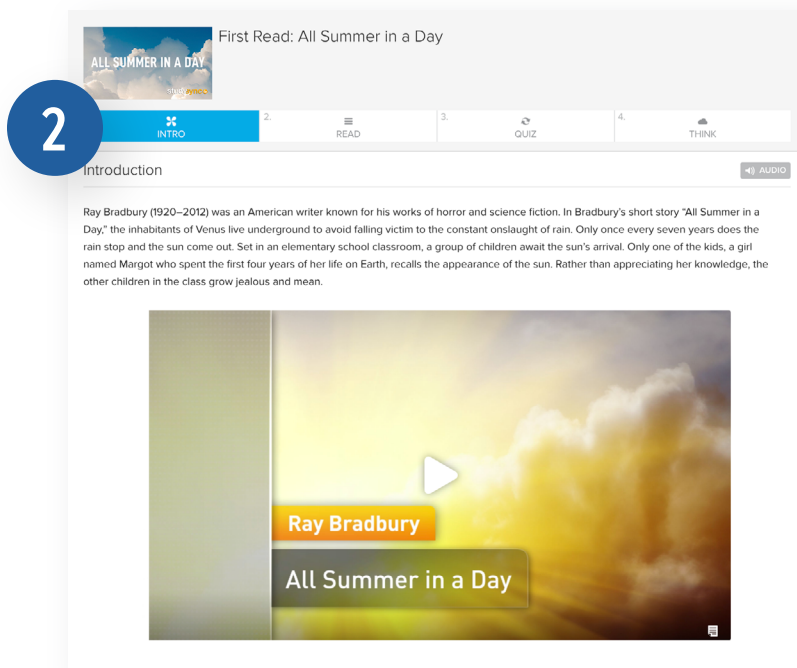
VIEWING AND COMPLETING ASSIGNMENTS

- 1 The program will open your StudySync Assignments tab. Here you can view all of the different assignments that you need to complete.



Look here for information about the assignment, including which teacher assigned it and the due date.

- 2 Click on an assignment to get started. For this example, we will view a First Read assignment. Read the Introduction. You can listen to the Introduction by clicking the Audio button. Click the **Preview** video on the Intro tab.



The **Preview** video is like a movie trailer for the text. Watch it to get some additional background information about the text and/or time period.

- 3 After you watch the Preview video, click the **Read** tab. This is where you will read and annotate an excerpt from the text.

First Read: All Summer in a Day

1 INTRO 2 **READ** 3 QUIZ 4 THINK

Read AUDIO **ANNOTATION** NUMBERS

"Ready?"

"Ready?"

"Now?"

"Soon?"

"Do the scientists

"Look, look; see fo

The children pressed to each other like so many roses, so many weeds, intermixed, peering out for a look at the hidden sun.

It rained.

It had been raining for seven years; thousands upon thousands of days compounded and filled from one end to the other with rain, with the drum and gush of water, with the sweet crystal fall of showers and the convulsion of storms so heavy they were tidal waves come over the islands. A thousand forests had been crushed under the rain and grown up a thousand times to be crushed again. And this was the way life was forever on the planet Venus, and this was the schoolroom of the children of the rocket men and women who had come to a raining world to set up civilization and live out their lives.

"It's stopping, it's stopping!"

"Yes, yes!"

You can listen to the excerpt read aloud by clicking on the Audio button. You can also track your thinking by including notes and highlights.

When you highlight a part of the text, you will be prompted to add an annotation and can apply a color if your teacher has directed you to do so.

- 4 The **Think** section of an assignment asks you to respond to short answer questions.

First Read: All Summer in a Day

1 INTRO 2 READ 3 QUIZ 4 **THINK**

Think SPLIT SCREEN MODE

Question 2 1 2 3 4

Based on the text, how has life on Venus affected Margot? Cite specific evidence from the text to support your answer.

B / |

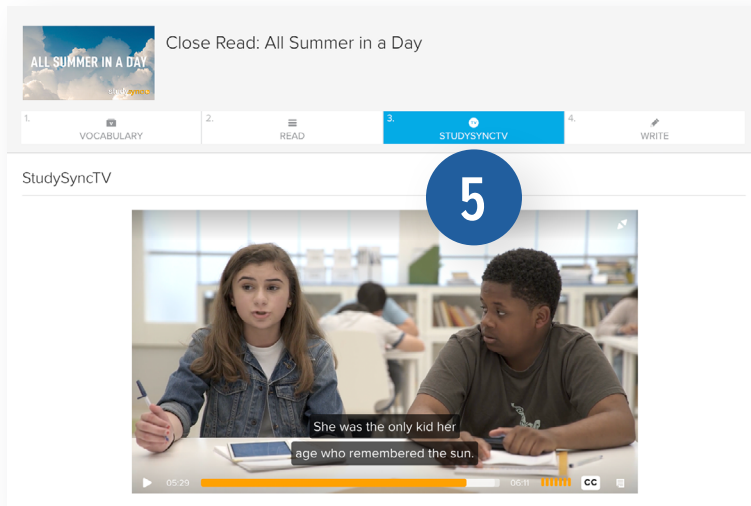
0 words, 0 characters

Save and continue

Click the **Split Screen Mode** button to view the questions side-by-side with the text excerpt and your annotations.

Click **Save and continue** after completing each question.

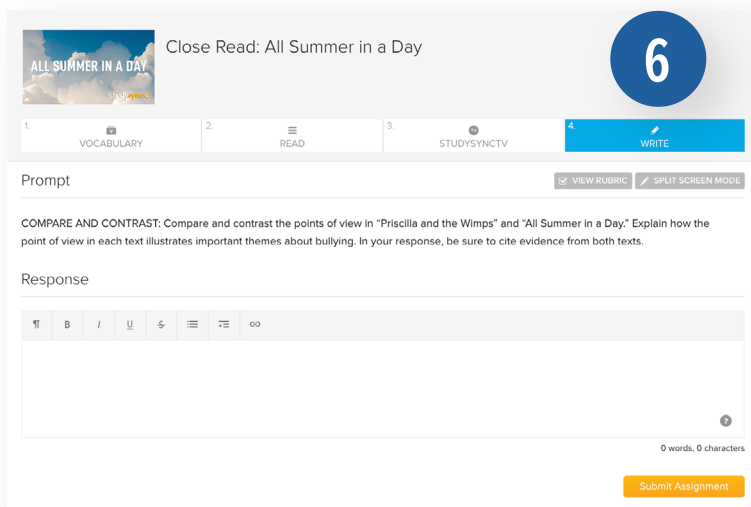
- 5 Some **Read** assignments may include a **StudySyncTV** tab to view a StudySync®TV episode. These videos provide a model discussion between students about the text and writing prompt.



Use the closed captioning tool at the bottom right of the video to help you follow along with the students' discussion.

You can also use the Transcript button to follow the students' conversation.

- 6 **Close Read assignments** also include a **Write** tab. This is where you respond to a writing prompt about the excerpt. Your work will save automatically and once you submit your response, your teacher and your peers will be able to read and review your work.

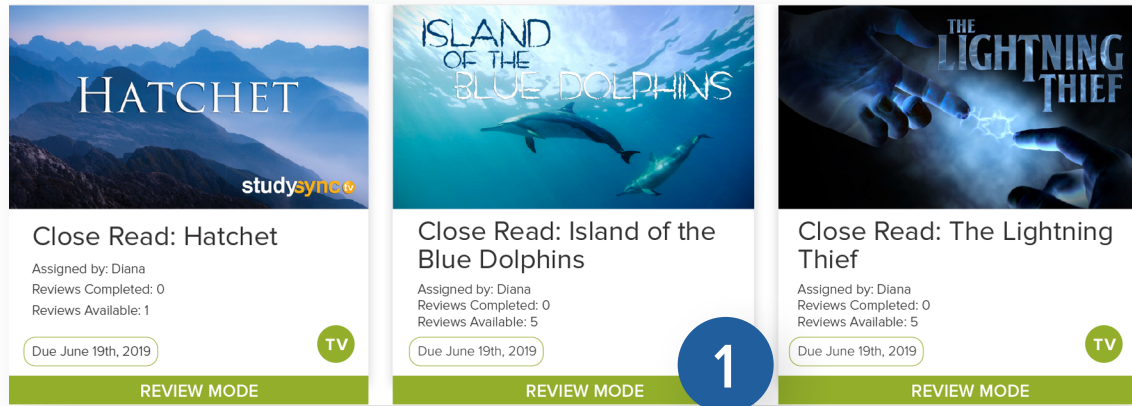


Click **View Rubric** to view the rubric your teacher and peers will be using to evaluate your response.

Click **Submit Assignment** when you have completed your response.

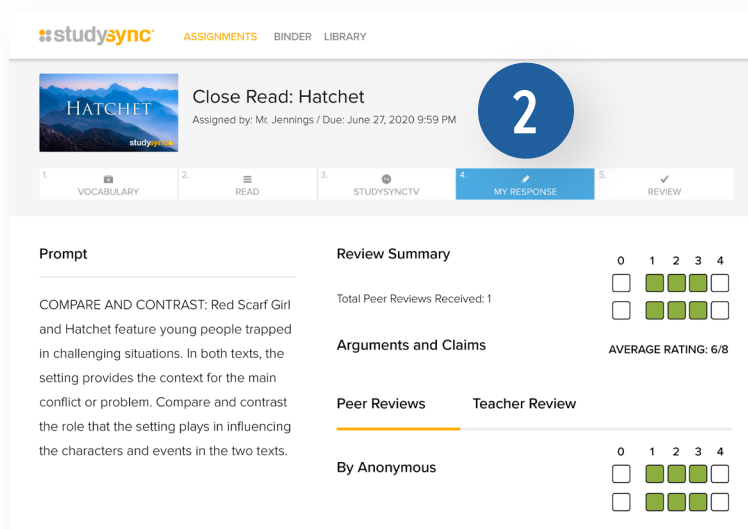
USING THE REVIEW FEATURE

- 1 Once you complete an assignment, you can review your peers' responses if your teacher has assigned peer reviews. On the Assignments tab, you can tell which assignments are in Review Mode by looking for the colored bar at the bottom of the assignment.



Click on a **Review Mode** assignment to view your response, with teacher and peer ratings, and to review your peers.

- 2 Click the **My Response** tab to view the Prompt, Your Response, Review Summary, Peer Reviews, and Teacher Review. Under Review Summary you can see your Average Rating for each part of the grading rubric.



You can toggle between Peer Reviews and Teacher Reviews to see ratings and feedback.

- 3 Click the **Review** tab to rate your peer’s response. View the Review section for prompt information and guidelines on giving written feedback. Then, rate your peers using the rubric provided. After you submit a peer review, another response will automatically appear until you have completed the number of reviews that your teacher has assigned.

studysync ASSIGNMENTS BINDER LIBRARY

Close Read: Hatchet
Assigned by: Mr. Jennings / Due: June 27, 2020 9:59 PM

1. VOCABULARY 2. READ 3. STUDYSYNCTV 4. MY RESPONSE 5. REVIEW

Peer Response

Today we will be discussing Hatchet: Point of View. Hatchet is a novel written by Gary Paulsen, that is based on a true story. We will be talking about Hatchet, its point of view, and the other points of view.

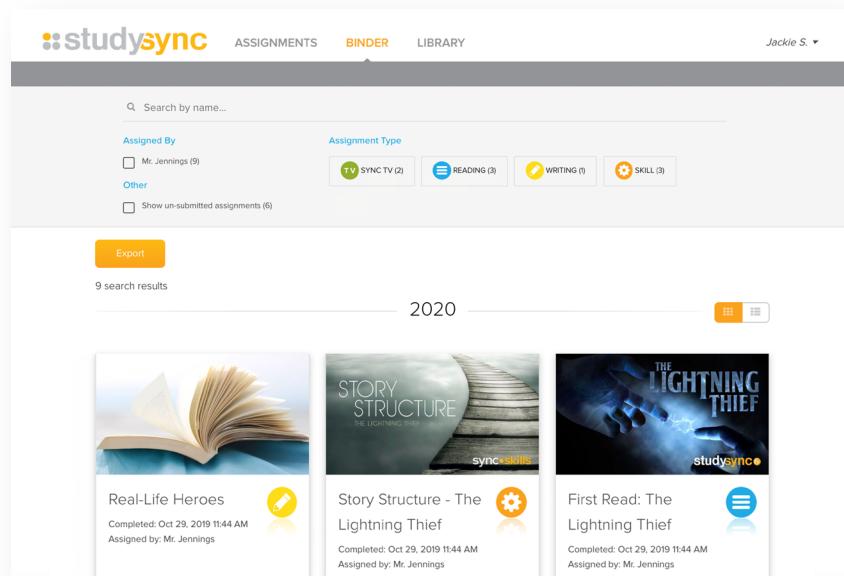
Review

- How well does this response answer the prompt?
- How well does the writer support ideas with details and examples from each text?
- Which sentence in the writer’s response made you think differently about each text?
- What did the writer do well in this response? What does the writer need to work on?

Remember that your comments are most useful when they are kind and constructive.

USING THE BINDER TAB

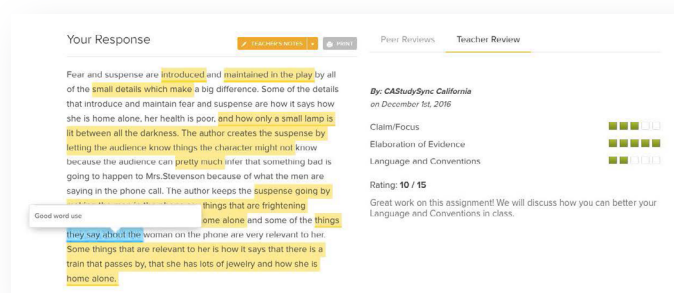
All of your completed assignments and reviews are held in your Binder. Go here to see the reviews you receive from your teacher and your peers for completed assignments.



You can view completed assignments for every year that you have had a StudySync account!

In the **Teacher Review** section, you can see the rating you received from your teacher, as well as notes and annotations on particular sections of your response.

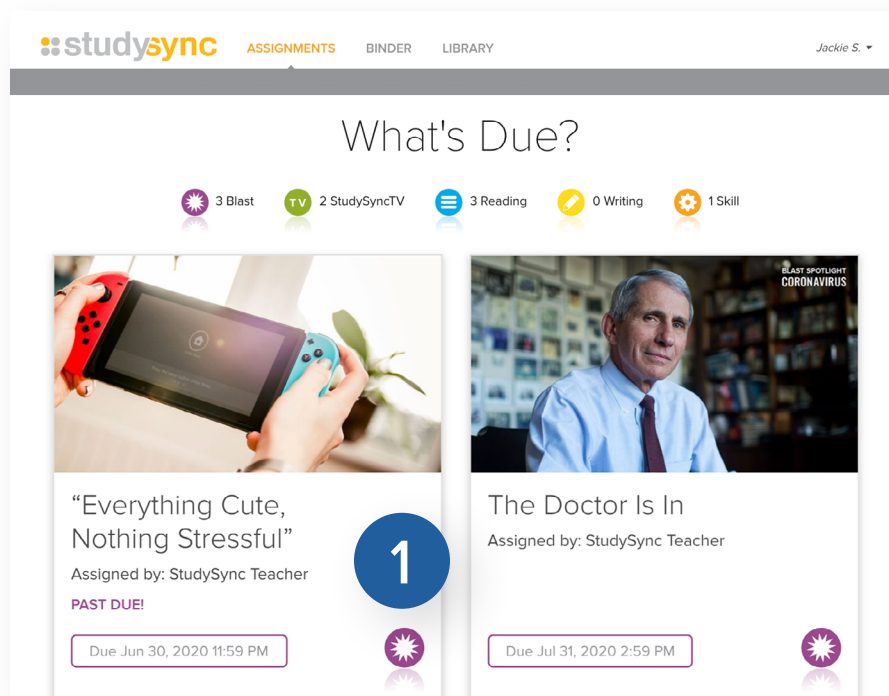
In the **Peer Reviews** section, you can see notes and scores you've received from each of your peers.



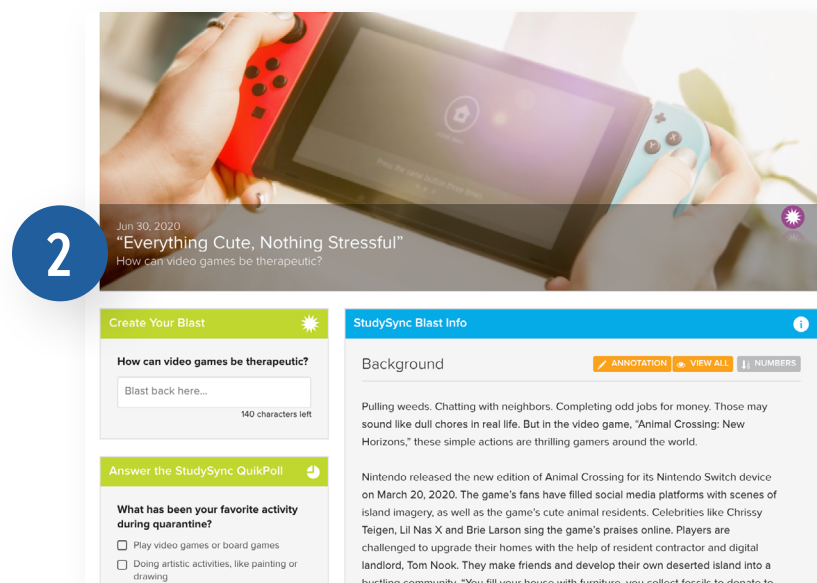
Click on a highlighted section with an underline to view your teacher's comments.

COMPLETING A BLAST

- 1 In your **Assignments** tab, locate an assignment with the purple Blast icon. These are short reading, research, and writing assignments based on topics of interest and current events.



- 2 First, read the Blast title and driving question. This is the question you will be answering in 140 or 280 characters.



Use the **Annotation** feature to track your thinking as you read the Background information. Just like with the text excerpts, you will be able to highlight and leave notes.

- 3 Read the **Background** information to learn more about the topic. Explore the **Research Links**, if available, for further information.
- 4 Check out the **Number Crunch** for an interesting fact about the topic. Complete the Blast response and the StudySync **QuikPoll**.

Create Your Blast

How can video games be therapeutic?

Blast back here...

140 characters left

Answer the StudySync QuikPoll

What has been your favorite activity during quarantine?

- Play video games or board games
- Doing artistic activities, like painting or drawing
- Dancing or playing sports where I can indoors
- Watching TV shows and movies
- Something not listed here

Submit

StudySync Blast Info

Background

3 ANNOTATION VIEW ALL NUMBERS

Pulling weeds. Chatting with neighbors. Completing odd jobs for money. Those may sound like dull chores in real life. But in the video game, "Animal Crossing: New Horizons," these simple actions are thrilling gamers around the world.

Nintendo released the new edition of Animal Crossing for its Nintendo Switch device on March 20, 2020. The game's fans have filled social media platforms with scenes of island imagery, as well as the game's cute animal residents. Celebrities like Chrissy Teigen, Lil Nas X and Brie Larson sing the game's praises online. Players are challenged to upgrade their homes with the help of resident contractor and digital landlord, Tom Nook. They make friends and develop their own deserted island into a bustling community. "You fill your house with furniture, you collect fossils to donate to the museum, you decorate, you garden," writes TheNextWeb Social Media Editor Nino de Vries. "It's all very mundane and chill. There's no challenge, no game-over. Everything is cute, and nothing is stressful."

Animal Crossing players say they enjoy this lack of stress. "Animal Crossing is also expertly tuned into what creates joy," says game developer Rami Ismail. "Small animations, messages of thanks, little progressions, rare occurrences — it's all there to give a sense of joy and discovery. Nothing can actually harm you in the game — and everything in the game builds towards something."

So, how did a relaxing, world-building game become popular when many other games offer virtual violence and cutthroat competition? The game went viral thanks to a virus. Its release date coincided with the novel coronavirus outbreak. People around the world suddenly had more time to devote to video games — and a need for an escape.

In a post for Medium, writer Ashley Abramson spoke to psychologist Ali Mattu about why Animal Crossing feels like a therapeutic activity. Mattu says that visiting an island like those in the game can satisfy the psychological need of "diversity of environment." "Humans are wired to quickly become desensitized to routine pleasures, a phenomenon that's known as hedonic adaptation," Abramson writes. "New and varied

4

Number Crunch

31

?

- 5 Once you complete a Blast assignment, you will be able to review and rate your peers' Blast responses. You will also be able to see the ratings your response receives, as well as the top-rated Blast responses. Check back often to see the top responses and QuikPoll results!

Top 10 Blasts

Rated By Peers. How do you compare?

Check back soon. Maybe you'll be in this list.

01 Anonymous
Video games can offer an escape from reality, easing stress for a moment.

02 Anonymous
Playing video games can establish a routine, especially if there are tasks to complete. This can relieve stress.

Number Crunch

31

Video game streaming platform Twitch experienced a 31 percent increase in viewership in March 2020, according to StreamElements.

Your Blast

Video games can be a form of escapism from reality.

Your Average Rating

★★★★☆ 4.200

Ratings Received

Anonymous ★★★★★

Anonymous ★★★★★

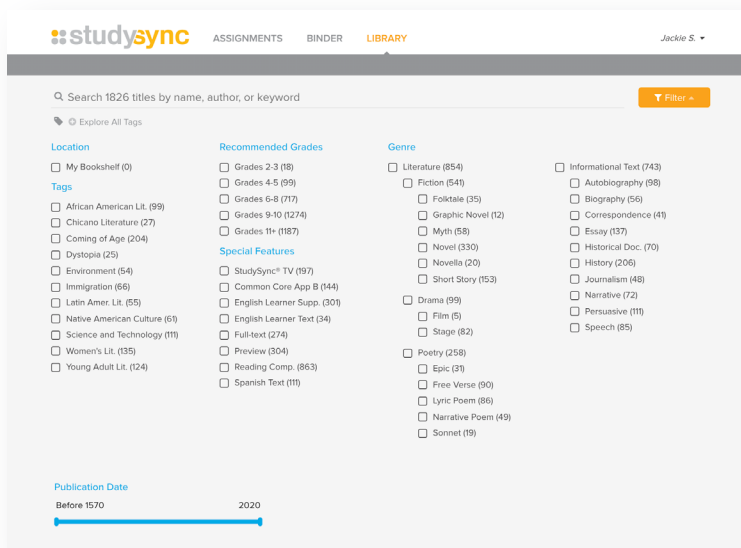
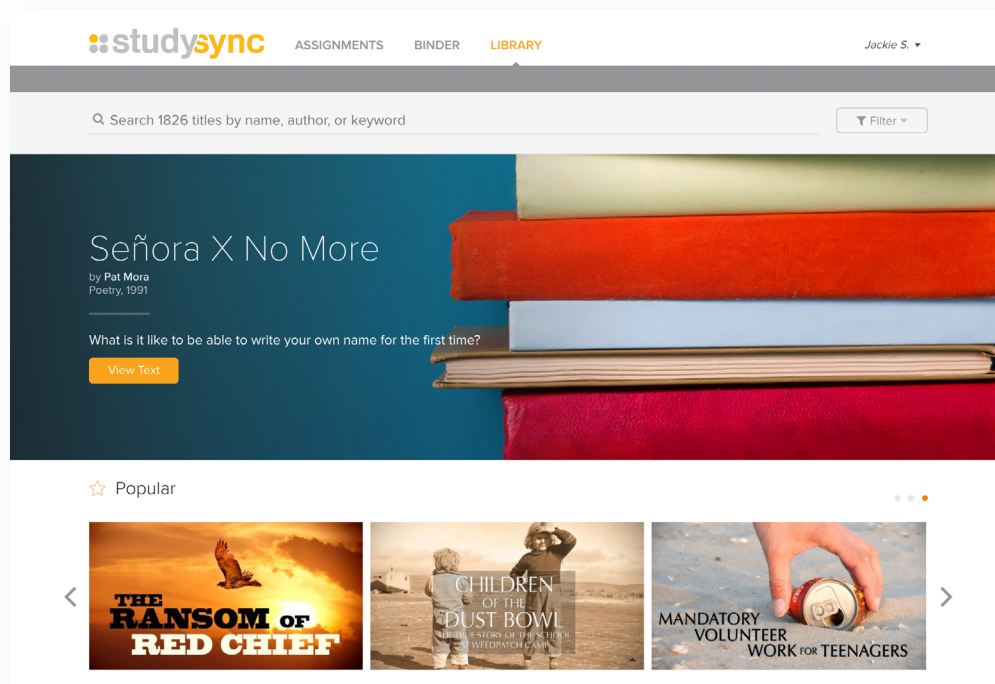
Anonymous ★★★★★

Anonymous ★★★★★

5

USING THE LIBRARY TAB

Your last tab is your **Library**. Your Library includes all of the texts in StudySync. You can search the Library using the search box or Filter button. You can also save titles to your **Bookshelf** so that they are easy to locate later.



Use filters to search the Library by Subject, Theme, Publication Date, Genre, and other StudySync features.

USING SCAFFOLDS (VIDEO)

Your teacher may have turned on scaffolds to support your understanding of the lesson. The scaffolds blade can be found on the left-hand side of the screen when you are viewing an assignment.

Independent Read: The Story of a Vision

1. INTRO 2. READ 3. QUIZ 4. WRITE

Scaffolds

Glossary

Use the glossary for support.

Scores not available at this time.

| Term | Definition | Image |
|------------|--|-------|
| foreboding | a feeling that something bad will happen | |

Note

As you read, monitor your comprehension by

- using context clues to make predictions about the boldfaced vocabulary words
- rereading passages that you found confusing
- using background knowledge to make inferences about anything that is not directly stated
- asking questions about unfamiliar terms and references and looking up information as needed
- annotating to summarize or paraphrase important information

1 Click on the **Scaffolds** blade to expand the activities and complete them per your teacher’s instructions.

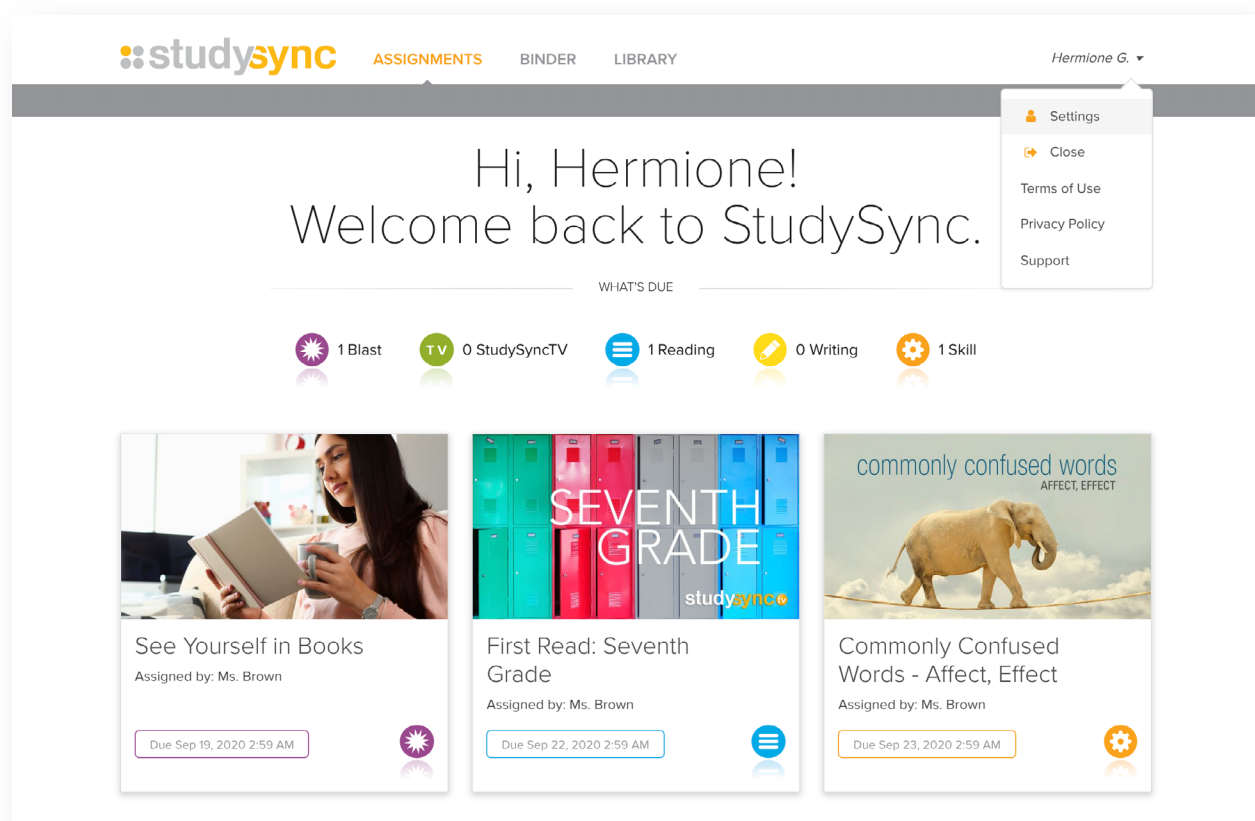
► [Watch the video “Students: How to Use Scaffolds with StudySync” to learn more.](#)



SETTINGS: GOOGLE CLASSROOM & MOBILE APP KEY (VIDEO)

The Settings menu in your account is where you can do things like change the color contrast settings of your account in Themes, control the settings for video Audio Descriptions, or get information to link your account to the mobile app or Google.

- 1 Open your Settings from the dropdown menu under your name in the upper right corner.
- 2 If your teacher has asked you to link your account with Google Classroom or if you would like to set up the mobile app on a device, visit your Settings.
 - Learn how to complete each set up with these quick videos:
 - ▶ [Students: How to Set Up the StudySync Mobile App](#)
 - ▶ [Students: How to Link Your StudySync Account with Google Classroom](#)





WELCOME TO STUDYSYNC