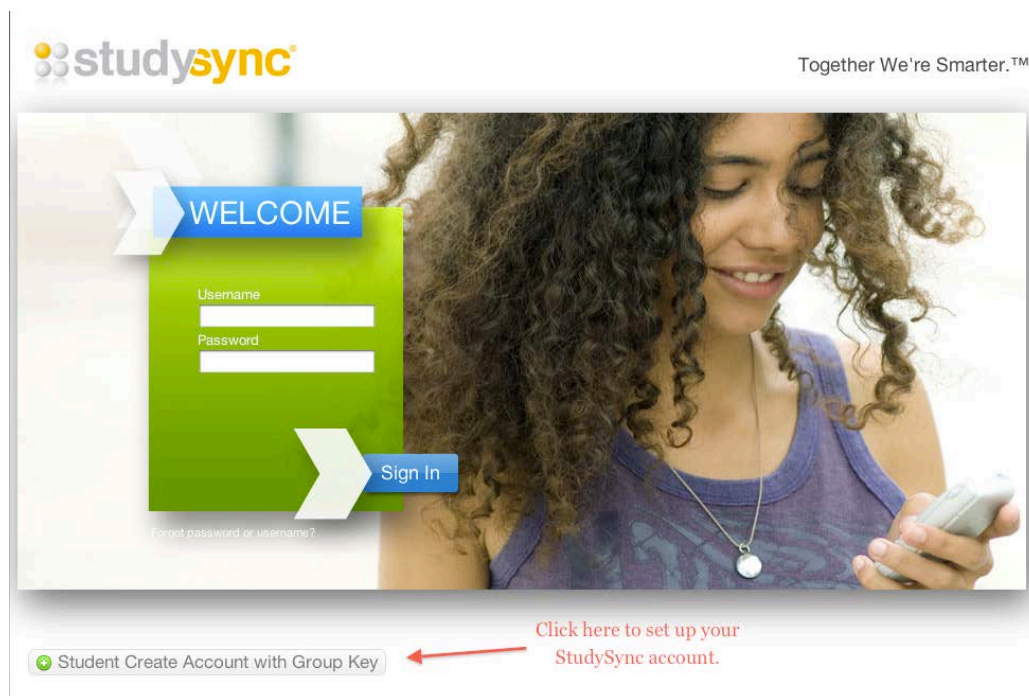


StudySync: Getting Started Student Guide

Welcome to StudySync! This year in class you will be using StudySync to complete reading, writing, and critical thinking assignments. You will be submitting your work directly into the system for your peers and teachers to review. Don't worry, your teachers will be explaining a lot more about StudySync in class, but for now, this guide will help get you started.

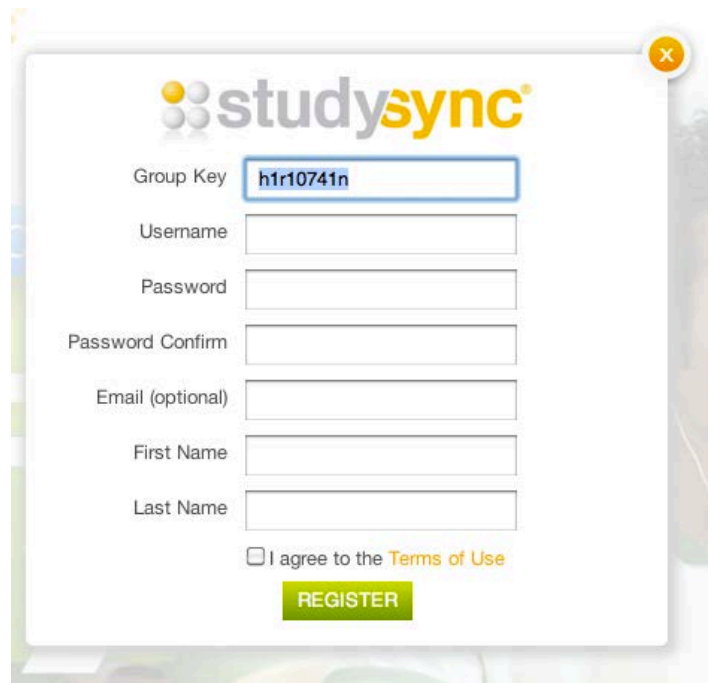
CREATING YOUR STUDYSYNC ACCOUNT:

1. Visit: app.studysync.com
2. At the bottom of the page, select "Student Create Account with Group Key."



- Using the Group Key code your teacher assigned to you, fill out the information on the next screen to create your account.

Create a username and password you can easily memorize. Email addresses or “last name + student number” are good ideas for usernames.



The screenshot shows the Studysync registration interface. At the top is the Studysync logo. Below it are several input fields: 'Group Key' (containing 'h1r10741n'), 'Username', 'Password', 'Password Confirm', 'Email (optional)', 'First Name', and 'Last Name'. At the bottom, there is a checkbox for 'I agree to the Terms of Use' and a green 'REGISTER' button.

YOUR STUDYSYNC ACCOUNT:

- Once you create your student account, you will be able to login to app.studysync.com using your username and password. You can easily join additional groups when your teachers give you the Group Key. Just click on the drop-down menu under your name and select “Join Group.” Enter in the Group Key, and you will start receiving assignments for that Group.



The screenshot shows the Studysync app interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: 'ASSIGNMENTS', 'REVIEW', 'BINDER', 'BLASTS', and 'LIBRARY'. Below these is the Studysync logo. A user profile menu is open, showing the name 'Gaby Abbott' and a dropdown arrow. The menu options are 'Profile >', 'Join Group >', and 'Logout >'. An orange arrow points to the 'Join Group >' option with the text: 'Click “Join Group” to enter additional Group Keys.' Below the menu is a large image of two students studying. Overlaid on the image is a green 'ASSIGNMENTS' button, a grey box with the text 'What's Next? Find out what you need to do.', and a yellow 'TO DO LIST' button. At the bottom, there is a navigation bar with a green indicator and arrows.

2. When you login to your StudySync account, you will be on your Home page.



3. Clicking on the Assignments tab will take you to your Assignment Carousel. These are the Assignments you need to complete.



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

- Click on an assignment to get started. Many assignments will have additional video and audio support to help you understand the text and assignment.

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

- After you watch the Preview (if one is available), click on “Read the Text.” This is where you will read and annotate an excerpt from the book.

You can listen to the excerpt read aloud by clicking on the Play Audio button. As you read, keep track of your thinking by including notes and highlights. When you select a part of the text, you will be prompted to add an annotation.

6. The SyncTV episode is an example discussion between students about the text and prompt. If your assignment includes a SyncTV episode, be sure to watch it to get an idea of how to respond to the prompt your teacher has assigned. This discussion will also help you learn how to think more deeply about a text and to refer back to it in order to support your ideas.

The screenshot shows the Studysync interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: ASSIGNMENTS (highlighted), REVIEW, BINDER, BLASTS, and LIBRARY. Below the tabs is the Studysync logo and a user profile dropdown for Gaby Abbott. The main content area is titled 'SyncTV' and features a video player showing two students, a boy and a girl, sitting at a table and discussing a laptop. To the left of the video is an 'ASSIGNMENT' sidebar for 'THE ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER' by Mark Twain, due Friday, December 18, 2015. The sidebar lists five steps: 1. WATCH THE PREVIEW, 2. READ THE TEXT, 3. WATCH SyncTV (highlighted), 4. THINK, and 5. WRITE.

7. The Think section of an assignment includes three short answer or multiple-choice questions. There is a corresponding video clip from the SyncTV episode to help you think about the question and form your answers.

The screenshot shows the Studysync interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: ASSIGNMENTS (highlighted), REVIEW, BINDER, BLASTS, and LIBRARY. Below the tabs is the Studysync logo and a user profile dropdown for Gaby Abbott. The main content area is titled 'THINK' and features a video player showing two students, a boy and a girl, sitting at a table and discussing a laptop. To the left of the video is an 'ASSIGNMENT' sidebar for 'THE ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER' by Mark Twain, due Friday, December 18, 2015. The sidebar lists five steps: 1. WATCH THE PREVIEW, 2. READ THE TEXT, 3. WATCH SyncTV, 4. THINK (highlighted), and 5. WRITE. Below the video player, there is a 'Question 1:' section with the text: 'What questions or thoughts do you have after reading this excerpt from "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer?"'. Below the question is a large empty text box for the answer. At the bottom right, there is a 'Next Question' button.

8. The Write part of your assignment is where you will respond to the prompt your teacher has assigned. You can view the Grading Rubric and save your Draft before submitting your response. Once you submit your response, your teacher and your peers will be able to read your response.

WRITE

Grading Rubric

Tom Sawyer doesn't seem to play by society's rules. Though the nature of this whitewashing scheme is not serious, does such behavior imply bigger problems? In 200-words, argue the potential consequences when people believe that rules don't apply to them. Use examples from the excerpt to support your answer.

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0 words

Save Draft Submit

ASSIGNMENT

THE ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER
by Mark Twain
DUE: Friday, December 18, 2015

- WATCH THE PREVIEW
- READ THE TEXT
- WATCH SyncTV
- THINK
- WRITE**

Click here to view the rubric your teacher and peers will be using to evaluate your response.

9. Once you complete an assignment, you can review your peers' responses (anonymously!). Head over to your Review tab to get started.

ASSIGNMENTS REVIEW BINDER BLASTS LIBRARY

Gaby Abbott

THE LOTTERY: by Shirley Jackson
Review End Date: June 03, 2016
Reviews Completed: 1 - Reviews Available: 2

THE LOTTERY
sync tv PREMIUM PRESENTATION
ync tv FILM PRESENTATION
ync tv FILM PRESENTATION

Go to your Review tab to read and evaluate your peers' responses. You can only review your classmates' responses once you have completed the assignment yourself.

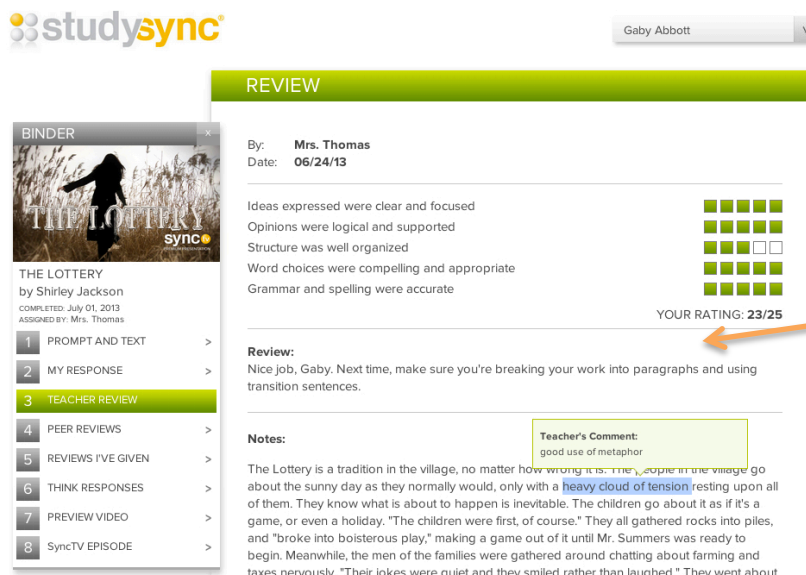
- Click on the assignment to reread the prompt and text, and to read your peer's response. This is anonymous for students, so you don't need to worry about others knowing which response is yours. However, your teacher has access to this information.

- After you read your peer's response, you will Review it using the rubric your teacher has assigned.

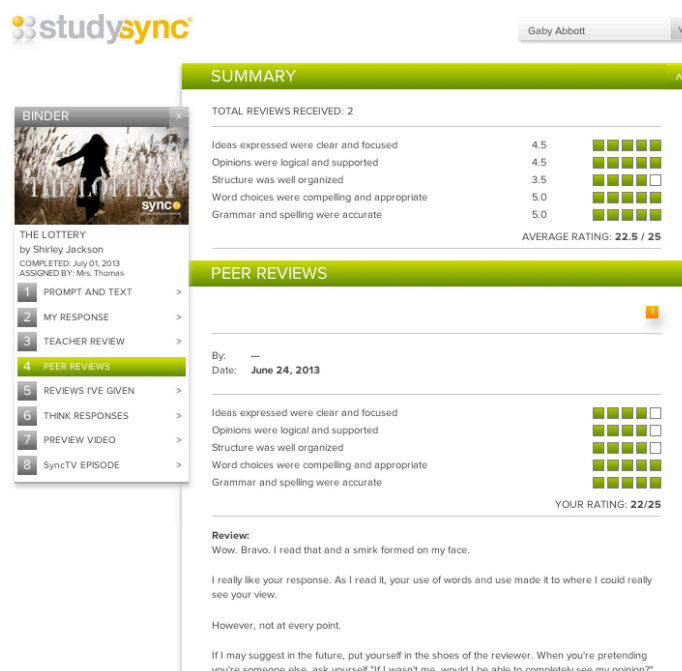
Give specific feedback on your peer's response in the text box.

Rate the response using the rubric assigned by your teacher. A box will pop up explaining each point value when you scroll over the point boxes with your cursor.

12. 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 an assignment.



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



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

Notice that this is still anonymous for students (but your teacher has access to this information!).

13. Your Blast tab is where you will go to complete weekly Blast assignments, which are short reading, research, and writing assignments based on topics of interest and current events.



14. You will be prompted to complete any Live, or current Blast assignments.

- First, read the Blast title and Response question. This is the question you will be answering in a tweet-length response (140 characters or less).
- Read the Background information to learn more about the topic.
- Go further – follow the Research Links to learn even more.
- Complete the Blast Response and the Quick Poll.

A screenshot of a specific Blast assignment page on Studysync. The page features a large background image of a person mowing a lawn. The title is 'Right to Work' with a sub-question: 'Should middle school-aged youths be allowed to work?'. A 'BLAST BACK!' button is visible. Below the main image is a section for 'Share your voice. Tell the world.' with a 'CREATE YOUR BLAST' form and a 'CHARS LEFT: 140' indicator. To the right is a 'StudySync Blast Info' sidebar containing 'BACKGROUND' text, 'ANSWER THE STUDYSYNC QUIK POLL' with a multiple-choice question, and 'RESEARCH LINKS' with several article titles and brief descriptions.

15. 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 Quick Poll results!

16. 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 search filters. You can also save titles to your Bookshelf.

Save your favorite titles to your StudySync Bookshelf.

We're excited for you to be a part of our learning community. If you have any questions about StudySync or your assignments, just ask your teacher.

Welcome to the StudySync Community!