

8th Grade Summer Reading Assignment

This summer, I am going to ask that you select one book from your class list to read before the next school year starts. This will be a good way to continue to practice and immerse yourself in English, so you don't forget everything we have learned this year.

I want you to enjoy the reading, so I have designed a list of options for you to choose from in order to show that you read and understood the novel. However, it shouldn't require too much work for you either. You must make sure to reference sections from the **beginning, middle and end** of the novel.

Part I: Choose a book!

Please choose a book from the list below. **The book you choose should be close to your current lexile level.** Please check with Ms. Verhage if you do not know your lexile level.

Title	Author	Lexile Level	
<i>Counting by 7s</i>	Holly Goldberg Sloan	770	Average
<i>The Beast Player</i>	Nahoko Uehashi	840	Average
<i>Once</i>	Morris Gleitzman	640	Easy
<i>A Single Shard</i>	Linda Sue Park	920	Easy
<i>God's Smuggler</i>	Brother Andrew		Challenging
<i>Maus: My Father Bleeds History</i>	Art Spiegelman	GN	Average
<i>The False Prince</i> - (or one of the trilogy)	Jennifer A. Nielsen	710	Average
<i>Legend</i> - (or one of the trilogy)	Marie Lu	710	Average
<i>Sorta Like a Rock Star</i>	Matthew Quick	1030	Average
<i>The Mysterious Benedict Society</i>	Trenton Lee Stewart	900	Challenging
<i>Supergifted</i> (or <i>Ungifted</i>)	Gordon Korman	740	Easy

Part II: Summary Reading Log. You should show me through your log entries what you noticed and what stuck out to you.

- A. **Find the Quotes:** For your summer reading log you will make 9 entries. I would like you to focus on the beginning, middle and end of the book.

Beginning: Find 3 quotes	Middle: Find 3 quotes	Ending: Find 3 quotes
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A quote about the setting 2. A quote about the characters 3. A quote about the conflict or problem the character is facing 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Find a quote about the climax or the most exciting part of the story. 2. Find two more quotes of your choice. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the theme or lesson that is taught in the novel? 2. How is the conflict resolved? Does the problem get solved? 3. Find a third quote of your choice.

- B. **Describe the Quotes:** After finding each of your quotes, explain each one in 3-5 sentences.

Part III: Choose one of the following options to complete.

1. Text to Text comparison

For this you must first identify an event that happens in the novel. Describe the event in three to five sentences. You must also tell me what chapter or page number this takes place in.

Then you must compare this to another book that you have read using another three sentences to specifically describe what happened in that book and how it is similar.

2. Character Chart

Here is one option for those who are artistically talented and/or creative. You will select two characters from your novel, preferably the protagonist and antagonist. However, if you select a different favorite character, that is acceptable.

Draw a picture of your character using the physical traits as described in your novel to add hair color, clothes, etc.

Secondly, identify three personality traits that each character possesses. These are internal traits that can't be seen such as a humbleness, kindness, charisma, pride, selfishness, etc.

3. Comic Strip

Create a comic strip (at least ten frames) of one chapter from your book. Make sure to include dialogue and the important details from that chapter. This can be done by hand or on the computer.

*****Citing a quote:** This year we will be learning to use MLA formatting. Here's an example from *The Book Thief* of how to cite a quote.

"I am haunted by humans" (Zusak 550).

First you write the quote with quotation marks around it.

Put the Authors last first in parenthesis

Next write the page number

Put a punctuation mark after the parenthesis and you're done!