

8th Grade English Summer Reading Assignment 2009

You will be required to read only one book from the attached list for your summer reading assignment this year. At the beginning of your 8th grade English class you will be required to turn in the summer reading worksheet on the book you have read over the summer and write an essay dealing with your book. The worksheet is due the first day of school and points will be deducted for each day it is late. It will be impossible to pass the first quarter in English next year, if you do not read a book from the attached list and complete these two assignments.

The only written work you will need to do over the summer is to fill out the worksheet that is attached to this assignment. This is to help you remember important information about your book and to help you with the essay in the fall.

You may wish to keep a journal as you read. One suggested method for a journal is to keep notes on what you're reading, while simultaneously writing responses to the book. Responses can be questions or comments about your book, your thoughts, feelings and opinions on what is happening, characters, etc. Keeping notes and/or personal responses/reactions will help you to understand and remember your book better. Keeping a journal will only help you to earn a better grade on the test and essay.

Some of the books on this list will be reserved at the Palmer Public Library. Because the demand will be high, you may only check out each book for two weeks. The books may be purchased at most bookstores or online if you choose. This will allow you to read when you want to and at your own pace. By no means should you limit yourself to reading only one book this summer, but you must read at least one for this assignment. Good luck and we'll see you in the fall.

Palmer High School

Grade 8 Summer Reading List

Fiction

Skellig
Speak
What Hearts
Martyn Pig
My Brother Sam is Dead
The Dark is Rising
Heroes
After the First Death
Walk Two Moons
Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes
The Midwife's Apprentice
Nowhere to Call Home
House of the Scorpion
Bull Run
Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key
Hoot
When Zachary Beaver Came to Town
Stormbreaker
Soldier Boys
Slap Your Sides
A Place to Call Home
Silent to the Bone
Beyond the Burning
The Cure
The Earth, My Butt, and Other Big Round Things
Snow Bound
Monster
A Face in Every Window
Dancing on the Edge
If I Should Die Before I Wake
After the Wreck, I Picked Myself Up, Spread My Wings, and Flew Away
Big Mouth & Ugly Girl
Airborn
Small Steps
Call It Courage
Crash
The Cay
Flipped
The Sword and the Stone
The Homeward Bounders
Archer's Goon
Devil's Arithmetic
Dragon's Blood: The Pit Dragon Chronicles, Volume One
Briar Rose

David Almond
Laurie Halse Anderson
Bruce Brooks
Kevin Brooks
Lincoln and Collier
Susan Cooper
Robert Cormier
Robert Cormier
Sharon Creech
Chris Crutcher
Karen Cushman
Cynthia DeFelice
Nancy Farmer
Paul Fleischman
Jack Gantos
Carl Hiaason
Kimberly Willis Holt
Anthony Horowitz
Dean Hughes
M.E. Kerr
Jackie French Koller
E.L. Konigsburg
Kathryn Lasky
Sonia Levitin
Carolyn Mackler
Harry Mazer
Walter Dean Myers
Han Nolan
Han Nolan
Han Nolan
Joyce Carol Oats
Joyce Carol Oats
Kenneth Oppel
Louis Sachar
Armstrong Sperry
Jerry Spinelli
Theodore Taylor
Wendelin Van Draanen
T. H. White
Diana Wynne Jones
Diana Wynne Jones
Jane Yolen
Jane Yolen
Jane Yolen

NONFICTION TITLES ON BACK

Nonfiction

Friday Night Lights

I Have Lived a Thousand Years

In These Girls, Hope is a Muscle

Grayson

An Inconvenient Truth: The Crisis of Global Warming

To Be a Slave

Left for Dead: A Young Man's Search for Justice for the USS Indianapolis

Surviving Hitler: A Boy in the Nazi Death Camps

H. G. Bissinger

Livia Bitton-Jackson

Madeleine Blais

Lynn Cox

Al Gore

Julius Lester

Peter Nelson

Andrea Warren

Summer Reading Worksheet

Name: _____

Title of Book: _____

Author: _____

Summary of story: _____

Characters: _____

Conflicts (a struggle between opposing forces)

External (a struggle between 2 people, or a person and a thing or nature)

Internal (a struggle inside a person's head; a decision)

Climax of Plot (What is the turning point of the story in relation to the conflict?)

Theme (What truth about human nature or the human condition is revealed by the actions of the story?)

Questions (List any questions that have arisen in your mind while reading the book.)

Evaluation of the book (Was it enjoyable? Would you recommend it to someone else?)
