

## Entering 7th or 8th Grade Reading List and Summer Reading Assignment for English 7 & 8

Parents & Students: Below you will find a list of engaging and well written stories that represent a variety of genres. Students should choose **one novel** from the list below **which they have NOT READ before**. While we endeavor to choose books that are representative of appropriate content, age level and maturity, we recommend that each family research the suggested selections. You may find sites such as [www.redeemedreader.com](http://www.redeemedreader.com), [www.squeakycleanreviews.com](http://www.squeakycleanreviews.com), [www.commonssensemedia.org](http://www.commonssensemedia.org), or [www.thrivingfamily.com](http://www.thrivingfamily.com) helpful as you discern the best publication for you/your student.

Assignment: Your student should read one required book listed below and complete a reading journal, due the first day of school. The journal assignment is on the next page. Note that all academic integrity rules from the Parent Student Handbook apply for this assignment.

Author	Title	Author	Title
Alexander, Kwame	<i>Swing</i>	Glaser, Karina	<i>The Vanderbeekers series</i>
Alexander, Kwame	<i>Solo</i>	Haddix, Margaret Peterson	<i>Found/Caught/Sent</i>
Armstrong, William	<i>Souder</i>	Horowitz, Anthony	<i>Alex Rider series</i>
Avi	<i>Crispin: The Cross of Lead</i>	Jacques, Brian	<i>Redwall series</i>
Avi	<i>True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle</i>	Jenkins, Jerry	<i>Red Rock Mystery Series</i>
Billet, Julia	<i>Catherine's War</i>	Johnson, Anna Rose	<i>The Star that Always Stays</i>
Budwill, Dirk	<i>The Good Cyclist</i>	Keene, Carolyn	<i>Nancy Drew series</i>
Burnett, Francis	<i>The Secret Garden</i>	Lewis, C.S.	<i>The Chronicles of Narnia series</i>
Byars, Betsy	<i>The Summer of the Swans</i>	Neyeri, Daniel	<i>Everything Sad is Untrue</i>
Collins, Suzanne	<i>Gregor the Overlander</i>	O'Brien, Robert	<i>Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh</i>
Curtis, Christopher Paul	<i>Bud, Not Buddy</i>	Park, Linda Sue	<i>A Long Walk to Water</i>
Curtis, Christopher Paul	<i>The Mighty Miss Malone</i>	Peterson, Andrew	<i>The Wingfeather Saga series</i>
Curtis, Christopher Paul	<i>Elijah of Buxton</i>	Rogers, Jonathan	<i>The Bark of the Bog Owl</i>
Dekker, Ted	<i>The Chosen</i>	Ryan, Pam Munoz	<i>Esperanza Rising</i>
DiCamillo, Kate	<i>The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane</i>	Sachar, Lousi	<i>Holes</i>
Dicamillo, Kate	<i>Because of Winn Dixie</i>	Sanderson, Brandon	<i>Skyward</i>
Draper, Sharon	<i>Out of My Mind</i>	Stamper, Vesper	<i>A Cloud of Outrageous Blue</i>
Ferguson, Margaret	<i>A Place to Hang the Moon</i>	Stewart, Trenton Lee	<i>The Mysterious Benedict Society</i>
Funke, Cornelia	<i>Dragon Rider</i>	Turner, Megan Whalen	<i>The Thief</i>
Funke, Cornelia	<i>Inkheart</i>	Wyss, Johann	<i>The Swiss Family Robinson</i>

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During summer break, rising seventh and eight grade students will read one (1) book of their choice from the list. **This should be a book not previously read.** Students will prepare a written response as described below, which will count as a test grade. Please plan to submit this assignment electronically on the first day of school.

**This assignment should be typed.**

**Instructions:**

1. Before reading the book, divide your novel into four (4) equal sections.
2. Read the book. As you read (or after reading), choose one meaningful passage from each of the 4 sections of your novel; you will **quote it** and **write the page number** of the passage in your response.
3. You must include a word count for both your excerpt and your response. Use the Tools Menu to find the word count for EACH Entry.
4. Next, use one response below to give your personal insight (NOT a summary) for each of the four sections. Use the following examples only once so that you have a variety of responses.
  - a. This passage is important because...
  - b. This passage reveals the character's...
  - c. This passage fits with the book as a whole because...
  - d. Christians can relate to this quote because...
  - e. This excerpt makes me feel (angry/sympathetic/confused/ etc.) because...
  - f. This character reminds me of...
  - g. This character exhibits the quality of (courage, honesty, persistence, etc.)...
  - h. The point the author wants to make here is...
  - i. I have felt the same emotions as this character when...
  - j. The author uses the literary device of (imagery/metaphor/theme)...
  - k. The setting is significant because...
  - l. I agree/disagree with this character's decision because...
  - m. This part is exciting or boring because...
  - n. The author does a good/bad job of...

**Each commentary response should be no less than 50 words in length. You should have a total of four entries. You will need to include a word count for each entry.**

5. Include a cover page with your name, the book's title (in italics), the book's author, and the book's total page count.

**Example Journal Entries:** (create a table in Google Docs)

Quote	Response
<p><b>Passage 1:</b>            "Fire swamps are, of course, entirely misnamed...Simply, there swamps which contain a large percentage of sulfur and other gass bubbles that burst continually into flame. They are covered with lush giant trees that shadow the ground, making the flame bursts seem particularly dramatic. Because they are dark, they are almost always quite moist, thereby attracting the standard insect and alligator community that prepfers a moist climate..." (page 199)</p>	<p><b>Response to Passage 1:</b>            The author uses imagery in this passage as he describes the fire swamps. This is powerful because I can see in my mind a huge, dark swamp like something out of a fairy tale, only with jets of flames popping up. The author describes the swaps and why they were such a terror to Florin and Guilder, showing there is more than just fire-there are scary creatures there, too. <b>(73 words)</b></p>

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### RUBRIC

Category	Exemplary 25	Accomplished 22	Developing 18	Beginning 15	Your Score
Quotes/Text  Citation of quote including page number	Meaningful passage selections.  AND  Quote marks and page numbers are provided for all 4 citations	Less detailed, but significant quotes  OR  Missing no more than 1-3 of 8 quotation marks and page numbers	Few significant details from the text  OR  Missing no more than 4-5 of 8 quotation marks and page numbers	Hardly any significant details from the text  OR  Missing more 6-8 quotation marks or page numbers	
Response Variety	Includes a variety of unique comments about passages (4 from list)	Includes some variety of comments (3 from list)	Little variety of comments (2 from list)	Comments are limited to the same response	
Response Number	4 responses with no paraphrasing or summary	4 responses but 1 is a summary response	2-3 responses; Summary in nature	1 response	
Word Count & Cover Page	Word Count (50+) Included  And  Student Name, Book Title, Author, Page Count on cover	Word count (50+) on 3 responses  Or  Missing one cover page item	Word count 50+ on 2 responses  Or  Missing 2 cover items	Word count 50+ on 1 or less response  OR No cover page	
Mechanics, Spelling, Grammar	No grammatical or spelling errors	A few minor spelling / grammar errors. All sentences start with capital letters and end with end marks	5 spelling and grammar errors;  OR 1-3 sentences lack capital letters and end marks	More than 5 spelling and grammar errors OR the majority of sentences lack capital letters and end marks.	

Rubric Score: \_\_\_\_\_ /125 =

Final Grade: \_\_\_\_\_