

8th Grade Summer Reading 2012

Language Arts 8, Honors Language Arts 8, and Foundational Language Arts 8– Read one book of your choice from List A and the required novel on List B. Complete the summer reading assignment for the book from List A and be prepared to turn it in on the first day of school. You will also turn in this assignment as a Word document to turnitin.com. You will be given these instructions at the beginning of school. Be prepared to complete an in-school assessment on the required book from List B during the first week of school.

List A – Choose one book to read and complete the summer reading assignment.

Leap of Faith- Kimberly Bradley
The Possibilities of Sainthood- Donna Freitas
Outside Shot- Walter Dean Myers
Bullyville- Francine Prose
Wednesday Wars- Gary Schmidt
The Schwa was Here -Neal Shusterman
Bull Rider- Suzanne Morgan Williams
Donut Days -Laura Zielin

List B (required) - Teacher directed assessment during the first week of school.

Esperanza Rising- Pam M Ryan

Summer Reading Assignment- List A Book

Instructions: Every student must read one novel from List A and write a 5-paragraph report as outlined below. This assignment will be worth 50 points.

Format:

Paper must be typed, 12 pt. traditional font (Times New Roman), double-spaced with complete heading in top right-hand corner of page:

1. Type your full name in the upper right hand corner of the page.
2. In the Center, cite the book that you are using, following this format: Author's Last Name, First Name. *Title*. City of Publication: Publishing Company, year of publication. (Example: Kingsolver, Barbara. *The Bean Trees*. New York: Harper and Row, 1988.)
3. Write in paragraphs, using complete sentences. All papers must be typed in 12 point Times New Roman font and double-spaced.
4. When you use quotes, remember to cite the quotation properly. After you write the quotation, record the quote's page number in parentheses (see example below). Note in the example how the final quotation punctuation goes after the end parenthesis. Example: Lou Ann says, "If Mama ever got married again I'd dance a jig at her wedding" (111; ch. 8).

Grammar and Spelling: Student must have correct grammar and spelling throughout the paper.

Paragraph One: Characterization: Write a paragraph describing at least 2 of the main characters. Describe their physical appearances and personality traits. Example: Santiago was 68

years old and could hardly walk. (physical description) The old man was humble and a hard worker. He would never ask anyone for help because he was too proud. (personality trait)

Paragraph Two: Setting: In a paragraph of at least **4** sentences, describe the setting of your novel and use quotes from the story for support. The setting is where and when the novel takes place.

Paragraph Three: Plot Summary: In a paragraph of at least **3-5** sentences, summarize the important events of the novel in the order they occur. Be specific!

Paragraph Four: Conflict/Climax: In a paragraph of at least **5** sentences, explain the conflict (any problem that faces the main character and the cause of that problem) **and** the climax (the turning point and point of highest excitement) in detail.

Paragraph 5: Critique: In a paragraph of at least 5 sentences, explain how you felt about the novel, what you liked and disliked and what you would change to make it better if you were the author.

Point Value: This essay will be worth 50 points, determined as follows:

- Format: 10 points as follows – Typed: 2 points; 12-point Times New Roman, double spaced: 2 points; correct heading: 1 point; paper organization (essay format with indentations): 5 points
- Grammar and Spelling: 10 points
- Characterization: 10 points
- Setting: 5 points
- Plot Summary: 10 points
- Conflict/climax: 5 points
- Critique: 5 points