

# SUMMER READING Gr. 8

## Academy Language Arts

If you have any questions, please email [jbrousseau@icschoolswarren.org](mailto:jbrousseau@icschoolswarren.org)

### DUE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

1. Pick one book from the list below to read over the summer
2. Choose and complete an assignment from below to complete

1. **\*\*Any book\*\*** by Gary Paulsen
2. *All Summer Long* by Hope Larsen (graphic novel)
3. *Stars in Their Eyes* by Jessica Walton (graphic novel)
4. *MexiKid* by Pedro Martin (graphic novel)
5. *Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus & Momentous Events in the Life of a Cactus* by D. Bowling
6. *Buzzing* by Sattin & Griffin (graphic novel)
7. *Timid* by J. Todd (graphic novel)
8. *Something Like Home* by A.B.Arango
9. *Absolutely True Story of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie
10. *Soldier's Heart* by Gary Paulsen
11. *Dragonwings* by Laurence Yep
12. *The House of the Scorpion* by Nancy Farmer
13. *Catherine Called Birdy* by Karen Cushman
14. *The Midwife's Apprentice* by Catherine Cushman
15. *Blizzard!* by Jim Murphy
16. *As Long as The Lemon Tree Grows* by Zoulfa Katouh
17. *Trouble* by Gary D. Schmidt
18. *The Pearl* by John Stienbeck
19. *The Alchemist* by Michael Scott
20. *Fever* by Laurie Halse Anderson
21. *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak
22. *Zlata's Diary: A Child's Life in Sarajevo* by Zlata Filipovic
23. *Touching Spirit Bear* by Ben Mikaelson
24. *Mona Lisa Vanishes* by Nicholas Day and Brett Helquist
25. *Turtles of the Midnight Moon* by M.J. Fitzgerald (graphic novel)
26. *Science of Breakable Things* by Tae Keller
27. *Hope was Here* by J. Baur
28. *The Serpent King* by J. Zentner
29. *The Hate You Give* by by Angie Thomas and Amandla Stenberg

# **ASSIGNMENT CHOICES**

## **A. NEWSPAPER**

This book report takes the form of a newspaper. Use the following requirements to design and lay out your book report. Place the articles and features where you think they fit best. Your newspaper should be neat, clean and free of spelling/grammar/punctuation errors. Since all of this will not fit on a single sheet of paper, you may have to use multiple sheets and staple them together.

### **REQUIREMENTS**

- **TITLE/NAME OF NEWSPAPER:** Create a title for your newspaper. It can be related to the book, your name, the class, the school, and so on. Don't forget to include your name as the editor.

- **ARTICLES**

*Summary:* At the top of the first page, write a summary of your book in a well-developed paragraph.

- Make sure your summary answers *who, what, where, when, and why*.
- Create a headline that related to the summary.

*Protagonist:* Write a brief article about the main character.

1. Describe who the character is, what he or she did, personality traits, and interesting things about the character.
2. Create a headline that relates to the article.
3. Include a picture of the protagonist in a scene from the book .

*Antagonist:* Write a brief article about the antagonist. Write in complete paragraphs.

1. Explain why this person/thing is the antagonist.
2. Create a headline that relates to the article.
3. Include a picture of your antagonist causing the problem.

- Create a headline that relates to the article.

### **FEATURES**

- **Editorial**

Choose an issue related to your book and take a position on it.

1. Write a letter to the editor describing how you feel about this issue.
2. Think carefully and honestly about what you want to say.
3. Create a headline for the editorial.

- **Comics**

Design a four-panel comic strip that illustrates something funny that happened in the story.

1. Use the four squares as a guide or as the actual comic strip.
2. Create a title for your strip.

- **Advertisements, Crosswords, and More**

1. All the space in your newspaper should be filled. After you have written all that is required, be creative to fill up the remaining spaces. Suggested possibilities include want ads, advertisements, crossword puzzles, word searches, riddles, or obituaries if a character in the book dies. Make sure everything relates to the story you read

## B. Create An Album/ Soundtrack:

Your assignment is to create a soundtrack for your novel. You must choose & record a song to fit the following story elements: On a doc create a link for each

- a. Protagonist (Main character)
- b. Antagonist (in conflict with Main character—this may be a person/group, place, or institution)
- c. Setting
- d. 1 Story Event
- e. Conflict
- f. Resolution
- g. Theme (please remember this is a lesson YOU learned from the book.)

Make a document that includes a link to the song and you must write a paragraph (5-7 sentences) explaining your song choice for each element. See format below:

example: Protagonist – “Song Title” and link so I can hear it.

Write 1 paragraph connecting the song to the element. Describe/Explain the character. Why did you choose this song for this character (explain the connection)? Use the lyrics of a song to guide your song choices, and include lines from the lyrics in this paragraph explanation. Format each of your 7 songs in this way.

You will also create a CD cover for your soundtrack which includes the title/author of your book and an illustration to represent the novel. On the back of your cover please write a summary of the book (7-10 sentences) from beginning to end.

### Video Book Report: Short Video

Film yourself reporting on & explaining the significance of each of the following: Protagonist (Main character) Antagonist (in conflict with Main character—this may be a person/group, place, or institution) Setting 1 Story Event Conflict Resolution Theme: authors message to us Favorite Part of book. Upload to YouTube **Private** (in settings- then share the link to my school email so it's not public or put on a thumb drive & bring to school)

### Character Diary

Write at least TEN substantial journal entries from the perspective of a character in your book. At the beginning of each entry, state the name of the featured character and the chapter after which the entry would be written.

Put yourself in the character's shoes. Consider the following questions to get you going:

- What are you most afraid of or worried about? What is making you anxious? Describe the person, object, or event that bothers you.
- Who has impressed, annoyed, or pleased you most so far? What other character has had the strongest effect on you? Describe the interaction you've had, and why you feel the way that you do.
- What do you want to accomplish in your life? What big goals have you set for yourself, and why? What obstacles stand in your way?
- If you could relive a moment, what moment would you like to relive, and why? What event do you think about? Why is it such a strong memory for you? Do you have any regrets about this moment?
- What lesson(s) have you learned? What have the events that you've been through taught you? How have you changed?
- Choose a value or ideal that is important to you--honesty, courage, faithfulness, and so forth.

Define your value, and explore how it relates to your life. Why is this ideal important to you?

### **Collage**

Create a large collage (made from poster-board) to represent your book. Using a design and materials of your own choice, your collage must meet the following requirements:

1. Use AT LEAST 7 different materials (ex: photographs, newspapers, magazines, pictures, photos, fabrics, string, words, paint, ribbons, glitter, odds and ends and other various materials.) everything must refer to the book in some way
2. Remember, a collage is **NOT** a poster with some pictures slapped on it; **ALL** areas of your background should be covered and overlap each other.
3. The front of your collage must include:
  - Title of book & name of author (prominently displayed)
  - Five quotations from the book that show the main idea of your chapters.
  - Names of at least three (3) of the characters and a short 3 sentence description of each of them.
  - Pictures that represent the theme, main idea, and personality of Langston Hughes in the chapters.
4. The back of the collage must have your name.
  - A short plot summary (at LEAST 5 sentences). Put this on the back of the poster-board.
  - 5 sentences that show your opinion of the book recommending it or not to your fellow peers and why. You must use 2 examples from the book to support your opinion which must be at least 5 sentences long. (Put on back of poster-board)
5. You should be prepared to present your collage.

### **Comic Strip**

4. You will be creating a comic strip summary of your book. Your summary must include all of the literary elements of you book (characters-including protagonist, antagonist, dynamic, static-, primary/main setting, conflict/major problem, rising action, climax, falling action, solution, and resolution). Your comic strip must be neat, and your pictures should be in color and should not include stick figures. Every box needs to have a caption, and several boxes should also have dialogue and thought bubbles.
5. You should outline your story using a plot line first to help you plan and decide how many boxes you will need (you need to have at least 15). A good comic strip summary uses lots of examples and quotes from the text and is interesting and informative.
6. Be ready to explain your choice of events from the book. Be creative and make your comic strip look like a professional product that could be published in a newspaper.

### **Written Report**

Write a summary of your story. Remember a summary is not a retell nor is it an explanation. A summary's focus is on the important main ideas from the text so that someone who has not read the text would understand what it is about. Your summary must include:

- Title, author and all the literary elements book (characters-including protagonist, antagonist, dynamic, static-, primary/main setting, conflict/major problem, rising action, climax, falling action, solution, and resolution).
- Write a paragraph review of the book using strong details and reasons why you liked or disliked the book.