

8th Grade Summer Reading 2017

Language Arts 8, Honors Language Arts 8– Read one book of your choice from **List A** and complete the summer reading assignment on this book. 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**, as soon as you're given the class log-in name. You will be given these instructions at the beginning of school.

List B: Be prepared to complete an in-school assessment (test) on the required book from List B during the first week of school.

List A (required) – 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
Shark Girl by Kelly Bingham
Muchacho by Louanne Johnson
Trouble with Lemons by Daniel Hayes

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

The Skin I'm In by Sharon G. Flake

Summer Reading Assignment- List A Book

Instructions: Every student must read one novel from List A and write a 4-paragraph report as outlined below. This assignment will be worth 60 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.) You can also use websites like Noodletools.com or Easybib.com. to create the citation.
3. Write in paragraphs using complete sentences.
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). The

first number in parenthesis is the page number of the book you are using for your assignment from list A. The 2nd number is the chapter.

5. Do not plagiarize! Please give credit to the author when you use his/her words. Most of the time you will use your own words.

The Assignment is outlined below:

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

Paragraph One: Introduction: Write a paragraph to introduce your book that includes the following: State your title (Capitalize and use italics), state the author's name, and the genre of the book. Also, state the theme topic (the central idea- you won't find it stated directly, it is a view about life, how people behave, etc.: Examples of Theme in *Number the Stars* are bravery and friendship, but there are more.) This is a usually a recurring element in the novel. Give examples from the book that give direct evidence to the theme you have stated. There should be many examples since it is the theme.

Paragraph Two: 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! Use details for the book to explain. Don't forget to give a chapter reference where the event occurs. *For example, you can state: On chapter 10, Ellen decides not to attend Rhodam High anymore because she doesn't know that she can trust the friends that go to that school.*

Paragraph Three: 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. Again give chapter reference and quote to support this paragraph. *Example: The climax occurs in chapter 10 when Ellen finds out that the hate mail had come from her younger sister all along. She finds how to look into URL's and says, "Mindy, how could you. Don't lie to me anymore. I saw that the hate mail came from our own computer. You made me believe that it was Cindy and Sarah." (113, chp. 10)*

Paragraph Four: 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 60 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:** 15 points
- **Introduction:** 10 points
- **Plot Summary:** 10 points
- **Conflict/climax:** 10 points
- **Critique:** 5 points

Summer Reading Requirement Rubric

Student's Name _____ Total _____/60_____

- ___ On Time
- ___ Late
- ___ List A Book
- ___ Used book other than from List A (-30 pts.)

I. Format – 10 points

- a. (2 pts.) Typed
- b. (2 pts.) 12 point, Times New Roman, double spaced
- c. (1 pt.) Correct heading/ book citation
- d. (5 pts.) Paper organization (essay format with indentions)

II. Grammar and Spelling- 15 points

- a. Sentence fluency
- b. Mechanics (punctuation, capitalization, indention, etc.)
- c. Correct use of quotes
- d. Correct citation
- e. Less than 3 spelling errors

III. Introduction- 10 points

- a. Title (capitalized, italics)
- b. Author's name
- c. Genre
- d. Theme

IV. Plot Summary- 10 points

- a. 3-5 sentences
- b. Summary of events in order
- c. Chapter reference

V. Conflict/Climax: - 10 points

- a. Clearly stated conflict
- b. Describes events that lead to the problem
- c. Chapter reference
- d. Evidence given with both direct, indirect quotation

VI. Critique (5 points)- 5 points

- a. Explained personal feeling
- b. Likes and dislikes
- c. Changes that could be made