

8th Grade Summer Reading Assignment

Due August 20, 2018 (No projects accepted after 8/24/18)

In Conroe ISD, we encourage all students to read over the summer in order to enrich learning and provoke thought. Summer reading strengthens reading skills, increases academic achievement, fosters a love for reading, and empowers students to become life-long learners. Additionally, students who enroll in a Pre AP or AP English course are expected to engage in summer reading as it prepares students for the upcoming school year and creates an initial common framework for classroom discussion and instruction.

Directions: Choose **one** of the titles below to read over the summer. You are responsible for completing the assignment described on the following pages. This will be graded as a major grade for the first 9 weeks.

These books were chosen from the [Texas Lone Star List](#), a recommended reading list developed by public and school librarians from the Young Adult Round Table. The purpose of the list is to encourage students in grades 6, 7, or 8 to explore a variety of current books. The Lone Star list is intended for recreational reading, not to support a specific curriculum.

- [Beanstalker and Other Hilarious Scarytales](#) by Kiersten White
- [Between Two Skies](#) by Joanne O'Sullivan
- [The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora](#) by Pablo Cartaya
- [Four-Four-Two](#) by Dean Hughes
- [Frogkisser!](#) by Garth Nix
- [Heartless](#) by Marissa Meyer
- [Impyrium](#) by Henry H. Neff
- [The Inquisitor's Tale: Or, The Three Magical Children and Their Holy Dog](#) by Adam Gidwitz
- [Last Day on Mars](#) by Kevin Emerson
- [Miles Morales: Spider-Man](#) by Jason Reynolds
- [Piecing Me Together](#) by Renee Watson
- [Scythe](#) by Neal Shusterman
- [Short](#) by Holly Goldberg Sloan
- [The Unbeatable Squirrel Girl: Squirrel Meets World](#) by Shannon Hale & Dean Hale
- [The Van Gogh Deception](#) by Deron Hicks
- [Warcross](#) by Marie Lu
- [Well, That Was Awkward](#) by Rachel Vail
- [Wild Bird](#) by Wendelin Van Draanen
- [York: The Shadow Cipher](#) by Laura Ruby

If you would like to read descriptions of these books, or want more information to help you choose a title, please visit the 2018 Texas Lonestar Annotated Reading List: <https://bit.ly/2IA7STV>.

Summer Reading Book Portrait

Directions: Use your summer reading novel to create a portrait for your book. This portrait can be created digitally or through original artwork. The book portrait must be on an 8.5" x 11" piece of printer paper; notebook paper will not be accepted.

Book Portrait Requirements -

1. **Four quotes to create the frame around the edges of the portrait** - You may use different colors or writing styles that represent the story. The four quotes should be correctly cited (author last name and page #) and contain:
 - a. 1 quote which you feel is the most important line in the story at the top of the portrait
 - b. 1 quote featuring an example of imagery on the right side of the portrait
 - c. 1 quote featuring an example of personification at the bottom of the portrait
 - d. 1 quote featuring an example of a metaphor on the left side of the portrait
2. **A visual image or symbol which creates a "central focus" for your portrait** - This image or symbol should be significant to the novel. This image or symbol **should not** be a replica of the book cover or movie poster. The image should be creative.
3. **Title of novel & name of author** - These can be placed anywhere inside the portrait. You should use different colors or writing styles that represent your novel.
4. **A theme statement for the novel** - This can be placed anywhere inside the portrait using unique colors or writing styles. A theme statement is the central message of a literary work.
 - a. A story might be about love so a theme statement would then state the message ABOUT love.
 - i. "Love, if taken to extremes, can be negative rather than positive."
 - ii. "Love can conquer even the greatest evil."
5. **Rate the novel on a scale of 1-5 stars** (1 is the worse, 5 is the best) - Write a 2-3 sentence explanation of why you gave it this rating. This should be at the bottom of the portrait (inside the quotes frame). Avoid general statements such as "it is slow" or "it's not good."

Tips for a higher grade -

- Be creative - think about what you want to say about your novel to make it stand out.
- Everything should represent your novel in a unique way.
- Use different colors with a purpose - think of colors that represent your novel.
- Keep it neat - don't fold or crinkle the page. It should not look like you just finished it before class started.

Book Portrait Rubric -

4 important quotes or phrases (6 points each)	24
Visual image - effective, not a replica of poster or book cover	20
Theme statement - 1 complete sentence; states a central message about the novel	20
Novel rating - star rating & 2-3 sentence explanation	20
Neat; Creative; Effort is evident	10
Title of novel & name of author	6

TOTAL 100

*****PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR FIRST & LAST NAME ON THE BACK OF THE PORTRAIT*****

