

Summer Reading List: English 8

for incoming 8th graders



* Parents/Guardians should review books with their children and assist them in selecting a book appropriate for their reading level, maturity, and personal interest.*

Research shows that students who read during the summer months retain more knowledge and begin the new school year more prepared than students who do not engage in summer reading. Reading is an important skill that is the foundation of not only academic success now but also success as an adult in the future. This summer reading assignment gives students the opportunity to enjoy books in a relaxed setting, allows them to explore different genres and topics, and encourages them to develop a natural love for reading and discovery.

Read at least **one book of your choice**. **It must be a book that you HAVE NOT read before**. When you return in September, you will receive a grade for your notes. Additionally, you will complete various assignments on the summer reading throughout the first few weeks of school.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me via email at julie.benninger@tullyschools.org Enjoy your books!

Summer Assignment:

Using a lined sheet of notebook paper, take detailed notebook notes as you read your book. Focus on **characters, conflicts, and literary terms**. You should be particularly familiar with **setting, imagery, characterization, protagonist, antagonist, simile, metaphor, irony, hyperbole, and point of view**.

The grade for your notes will be determined using the following rubric:

100% - *All* notes are thorough, complete, detailed, and accurate. The student clearly thought about the reading and made insightful connections regarding characters, events, and literary elements.

80% - *Most* notes are complete, detailed, and accurate. There may be some missing details or inaccuracies. The student clearly read the book but did not take his/her notes to a higher level of thinking.

65% - *Some* notes are complete, detailed, and accurate. There are many details missing and some sections are not completed. The student did the bare minimum.

0% - Blank or not turned in

Summer Reading Notes

Directions: Your notes should be on lined notebook paper and neatly written in pen or pencil.

- **Heading**, at the top of the front page:

Your name

The title of the book

The author of the book

In your notes, clearly have a section for each of the following:

- **Setting:**

Time period, season, location, etc. Also, focus on imagery; it often contributes to the setting. If the setting changes throughout the book, you should note that.

- **Plot:**

List the important events chronologically. Clearly label the rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution. Explain the main conflict of the story. How is it resolved?

- **Characters:**

Include names and characterization (personality, physicality, perception). Label the protagonist and antagonist.

- **Literary Elements:**

- Find and copy an example of imagery. Cite it properly as a direct quote.
- Find and copy a simile OR a metaphor. Cite it properly as a direct quote.
- From what point of view is the story told? How can you tell?

- **Personal Reflection:**

Each of these questions should be answered in a PERFECT PARAGRAPH of at least six sentences (TS, 3D, *, C, G).

- What did you learn from this book?
- Which character did you relate to the most? Why?