

SUMMER READING REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 8TH GRADE

All students entering grade 8 are required to read TWO books during the summer break.

You will need to take *original* notes on each of your two books. *None of your notes should be copied or summarized from another source!* Please use the attached “5 Ws and an H Notes” graphic organizer to structure your notes. Your notes should contain good detail, reflect your best effort, and convince your teacher that you did indeed read both books. You will turn in your notes for both books during the first full week of school; these will count as a test grade in ELA. During the second full week of school, you will write an in-class essay on your two summer reading books; this essay will count as a test grade in Writing class.

Please choose TWO books from the list below. Work together with your parents to find the books that are the best fit for you. *Parents, please note that the three selections with asterisks *** are young adult adaptations of books with stronger language and content; when selecting these texts, please be sure that you obtain the YOUNG ADULT or YOUNG READERS version (the original versions are generally considered more appropriate for upper-level high school students).*

1. *The Bronze Bow* (by Elizabeth George Speare) (Lexile = 760)
2. ****Discovering Wes Moore* (by Wes Moore) (“adult version” has a different title) (Lexile = 840)
3. *Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie* (by Jordan Sonnenblick) (Lexile = 940)
4. *Echo* (by Pam Muñoz Ryan) (Lexile = 680)
5. *Every Soul a Star* (by Wendy Mass) (Lexile = 740)
6. ****I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World* (Young Readers Edition, by Malala Yousafzai with Patricia McCormick) (Lexile = 830)
7. *Inside Out & Back Again* (by Thanhha Lai) (Lexile = 800)
8. ****Outcasts United* (adapted for young people by Warren St. John) (Lexile = 980)
9. *Prisoner B-3087* (by Alan Gatz) (Lexile = 760)
10. *Refugee* (by Alan Gatz) (Lexile = 800)

You may read a book that is not on this list IF it meets these three criteria: 1) “Young people vs. society” is a theme in the book. 2) Your parents approve of the book. 3) Mrs. Powers has approved the book. Please have your parent email Mrs. Powers at kpowers@btschool.org with any requests to read a book not on this list.

Please contact Mrs. Powers with any questions about 8th grade summer reading. Happy reading! I am looking forward to a fabulous 8th grade year with the BT Class of 2024!



Name: _____

8th Grade ELA

Date: _____

**Summer Reading
5 Ws and an H Notes**

Title of book: _____

My signature below indicates that I did indeed read this book indicated above and that the notes written here are my own work and my own words.

Student Signature

WHEN and WHERE (= setting):

WHO (This should be a list of characters accompanied by a brief description of the role each played in this book.):

WHAT and HOW (= plot summary):

WHY AND HOW (Which aspects of adult society are the central characters struggling with and/or fighting against? WHY? By the end of the book, HOW is this conflict resolved?):