



LAGRANGE ACADEMY

English 8 Summer Reading

Welcome to Mrs. Tures' 8th grade English class! This summer you will read a book of your own choosing. I have a few guidelines:

1. The book must be at least 250 pages long.
2. The book must be at least a Lexile level of 850. (You can check Lexile levels at <http://fab.lexile.com> or similar websites.)
3. You may not read any book that has been turned into either a movie or TV show. Please double check at www.imdb.com to make sure your book qualifies.
4. You may not read a "graphic novel". In other words, your book can not be mostly drawings. It has to be words, with perhaps one or two illustrations per chapter.
5. You can not read a book assigned by another teacher as my summer reading.
6. Please DO NOT read any of the following: A Wrinkle in Time, Johnny Tremain, The Westing Game, The Witch of Blackbird Pond, Tangerine, Walk Two Moons, The Giver, To Kill a Mockingbird, Romeo and Juliet, The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, The Book Thief, or The Hound of the Baskervilles.

As you read, you need to fill out the Eighth Grade Summer Reading Note Taking Chart. I expect you to fill out a chart three times (or more) while reading; once near the beginning, once in the middle of the book, and once as you read the end. **Be thorough in your note taking**, as these notes will help you with the in-class assignments I will be giving the first two weeks of school. You should make a new chart or set of notes each time. DO NOT just add to the first set of notes as you read.

I strongly recommend waiting until July to read this book. There will be a reading quiz on this book during the first full week of school and a discussion of the book, so if you read too early, you may forget important details!

Name: _____

Pages read: _____

Eighth Grade Summer Reading Note-taking Chart

Directions: Read your book carefully. Pay close attention to character development, plot, clues and information given, and the writer's style. As you read, use the form below to take notes. You should fill out at least 3 copies of this form, for the beginning, middle, and end of the story.

Give a brief summary of the plot in this part of the story.

What are your thoughts and questions about this story? You might reflect on the characters, their problems, differences between the time period of the book and now, or other ideas in the story. *Support your thinking with QUOTES and/or specific details from the story.*

Describe the main character(s). How is each character's personality established? How have they changed during this part of the story? *Support your thinking with QUOTES and specific details from the story*

What are some interesting events that happen during this part of the novel? What do you suppose will happen next? *Support your thinking with QUOTES and specific details from the story*

A theme is a main idea or underlying message in a piece of literature. They are often universal ideas that apply outside of the novel, to real life. What are some of the themes in this novel?

