



Dallas Independent School District
Michael Hinojosa
General Superintendent

8th Grade Language and Literature Summer Assignment 2018

Welcome readers and writers to **8th Grade Language and Literature!** We are looking forward to working with you during the next school year!

In preparation for next year, you are **required** to complete the following:

- ★ Select & Read **ONE Novel** from the List
- ★ Complete **ONE Assignment** selected from the List

The **Summer Reading Assignment** will be **due Tuesday, September 4**, and will count as a test grade for your Language & Literature course.

These novels can be checked out at your local library or purchased online or at local bookstores such as Half Price Books. You may read the print or electronic version.

*** Note to parents - some of these books may contain mature or controversial content. Please work with your student to choose a book that you think is most appropriate.**

Questions should be sent to Spring Rayford (ELAR Instructional Coach) at srayford@dallasisd.org

NOVEL CHOICES (Choose ONE)

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak - Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel--a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.

The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky - follows observant "wallflower" Charlie as he charts a course through the strange world between adolescence and adulthood. First dates, family drama, and new friends. Devastating loss, young love, and life on the fringes. Caught between trying to live his life and trying to run from it, Charlie must learn to navigate those wild and poignant roller-coaster days known as growing up.

Eleanor and Park by Rainbow Rowell - Two misfits. One extraordinary love.



JL Long Middle School
International Baccalaureate World School
6116 Reiger St. • Dallas, TX 75214 • Telephone (972) 502 – 4700 • Fax (972) 502 – 4701

CAB



Dallas Independent School District
Michael Hinojosa
General Superintendent

El Deafo by Cece Bell - This funny perceptive graphic novel memoir about growing up hearing impaired is also an unforgettable book about growing up, and all the super and super embarrassing moments along the way.

The Night Circus by Erin Morgenstern - The circus arrives without warning. No announcements precede it. It is simply there, when yesterday it was not.

My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Picoult - Like most teenagers, Anna is beginning to question who she truly is. But unlike most teenagers, she has always been defined in terms of her sister—and so Anna makes a decision that for most would be unthinkable, a decision that will tear her family apart and have perhaps fatal consequences for the sister she loves.

I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai and Christian Lamb - When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education.

I Beat the Odds by Michael Oher - The football star made famous in the hit film "The Blind Side" reflects on how far he has come from the circumstances of his youth.

The Other Wes Moore by Wes Moore - Two kids with the same name lived in the same decaying city. One went on to be a Rhodes Scholar, decorated combat veteran, White House Fellow, and business leader. The other is serving a life sentence in prison. Here is the story of two boys and the journey of a generation.

ASSIGNMENT CHOICES (Choose ONE)

1. Create an **Illustrated Timeline** showing important events from the book
 - Choose at least 10 important events from the story
 - Write a 2 sentence description of each event
 - Draw & Color an illustration for each event
 - The events must be in chronological order

2. Rewrite the book as a **Picture Book**
 - Ten Pages Minimum
 - Illustrations on each page
 - Write 2-3 sentences on each page
 - Should be a summary of the complete story