

PEARL RIVER HIGH SCHOOL

Summer Reading 2021– Grade 8

Choose two books from the list below. We encourage you to take notes while you are reading. If you purchase your own books, you can also use post-it-notes or write in the margins. Read each book selected. When finished with each book, students should be prepared to discuss these three questions:

- **Literary Elements** – Note characters, conflicts (main problem), changes in plot, and resolution (how the problem is solved).
- **The Triple T** – what kinds of text-to-self, text-to-text, or text-to-world connections can you make with this book?
- **The Wonderings** – what questions came up while you were reading and may still be unanswered? These are not plot/summary, literal types of questions, but rather those that leave you thinking.
- **The Aha!** – identify and cite a passage (or 2) in the text that has importance to you as the reader, and know why you selected it.

ENGLISH 8 HONORS

Students must read and annotate a copy of **How to Read Literature Like a Professor: For Kids** by Thomas C. Foster and **Fahrenheit 451** by Ray Bradbury. It is suggested that students purchase their own copies in order to make annotations easier. Additionally, Foster's book should be read **BEFORE** Bradbury's in order to help students facilitate their annotations. Students must also find a nonfiction article that correlates to any of the themes/motifs in Bradbury's novel and write at least one paragraph that establishes the connection between the novel and the non-fiction article.

Enjoy your summer reading and learning. We look forward to sharing our books in September.

Young Adult (YA) Fiction – sometimes “edgy content”, dealing with social issues and adolescent situations – coming of age, friendships, fitting in, dating, relationships, sex, peer pressure, family, siblings, and loss. This list is compiled from a variety of resources including, but not limited to, state education department websites, the American Library Association, and regional schools.

<i>Acceleration</i>	McNamee, Graham. Duncan...a boring summer job...a diary of a serial killer... what will Duncan do to stop him?	YA Fiction – mystery and suspense
<i>City of Bones</i>	Clare, Cassandra When fifteen-year-old Clary Fray heads out to the Pandemonium club in New York City, she hardly expects to witness a murder.	YA Fiction – mystery and suspense
<i>Everything, Everything</i>	Nicola Yoon The story of Maddy, a girl who's literally allergic to the outside world, and Olly, the boy who moves in next door . . . and becomes the greatest risk she's ever taken. This innovative and heartfelt debut novel unfolds via vignettes, diary entries, illustrations, and more.	YA Fiction
<i>Hero</i>	Lupica, Mike High-adventure thriller with the classic hero's journey. Mystery and espionage.	YA – Fiction

<i>Hoops</i>	Myers, Walter Dean	YA – Fiction	Basketball, championships and the pressure to 'sell out'.
<i>I Am The Cheese</i>	Cormier, Robert.	YA Fiction –	Teenage boy ... witness protection ... family secrets ...struggle against injustice
<i>I Have Lived A Thousand Years</i>	Bitton-Jackson, Livia	Biography	Memoir of a thirteen year old girl growing up during the Holocaust ... cruelty and suffering, yet faith, hope, perseverance, and love
<i>Life As We Knew It</i>	Pfeffer, Susan Beth	YA - Science Fiction	Global disaster – tidal waves, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions ... family preparedness...survival
<i>Miracle on 49th Street</i>	Lupica Mike	Fiction	Family dynamics ... secrets ... basketball ...a brave young girl's hope for a Christmas miracle
<i>Monster</i>	Myers, Walter Dean	YA Fiction	Struggles of a sixteen year old being tried for murder...written in diary narrative and movie screenplay format
<i>My Sister's Keeper</i>	Piccolt, Jodi	Fiction (challenging)	Family dynamics ... choices ... genetic engineering ...self-discovery
<i>Notes from the Dog</i>	Paulson, Gary	YA – Fiction	Fifteen-year-old Finn is a loner, living with his dad and his amazing dog, Dylan. When a neighbor hires Finn to create a garden, his gardening ideas backfire comically. But Johanna and the garden help Finn discover his talents for connecting with people.
<i>One of Us is Lying</i>	McManus, Karen	YA - Fiction - mystery and suspense	The Breakfast Club meets Pretty Little Liars, <i>One of Us is Lying</i> is the story of what happens when five strangers walk into detention and only four walk out alive
<i>The Red Badge of Courage</i>	Crane, Stephen	Historical Fiction	Civil War era – a young boy enlists in the Union army in the hopes of fulfilling his dreams of glory.
<i>Smells Like Dog</i>	Selfors, Suzanne	Fiction	A cast of eccentric characters solves a mystery.
<i>Speak</i>	Anderson, Laurie Halse	YA Fiction	Outcast teenager ... speaking out for yourself
<i>The Big Field</i>	Lupica, Mike	Fiction	Sportsmanship and team building ... action filled ...father-son baseball story
<i>The Martian: A Novel (classroom edition)</i>	Andy Weir	Fiction	The story of astronaut Mark Watney who is stranded on Mars after a mission failure leads his crew and NASA to assume he is dead. Using his background in botany and engineering, Watney must find a way to survive until he can contact NASA and they can arrange a rescue mission.

<i>The Hobbit</i>	Tolkein, J.R.R.	Fantasy
	Follow the adventures of Bilbo Baggins, a hobbit from the Shire, in this prequel to <i>The Lord of the Rings</i> trilogy.	
<i>The Summer Before</i>	Baskin, Nora Raleigh	Fiction
	“... friendship among girls on the edge of puberty, especially the way big dramas work out in small moments .. . A poignant story of children on the home front and the ways that a first love can break up longtime friendships and change things .forever.”	
<i>The Thief Lord</i>	Funke, Cornelia	YA Fiction
	Street children in the magical underworld of Venice, Italy ...	
<i>Z for Zachariah</i>	O’Brian, Robert C.	YA Fiction
	A gripping story about the survivors of a nuclear holocaust	