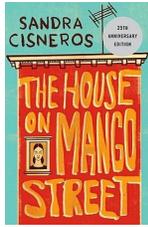


Summer Reading Assignment

8th Grade - Jaskiewicz/Turovsky

For this assignment, you will need to choose **one** of the following novels and work on the attached assignments. This will be due on the first day of school when come back from summer break.

*Accelerated will be reading two novels!



Novel #1 - The House on the Corner of Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros

On a series of vignettes, *The House on Mango Street* covers a year in the life of [Esperanza](#), a Chicana (Mexican-American girl), who is about twelve years old when the novel begins. During the year, she moves with her family into a house on Mango Street. The house is a huge improvement from the family's previous apartment, and it is the first home her parents actually own. However, the house is not what Esperanza has dreamed of, because it is run-down and small. The house is in

the center of a crowded Latino neighborhood in Chicago, a city where many of the poor areas are racially segregated.

Esperanza does not have any privacy, and she resolves that she will someday leave Mango Street and have a house

all her own.



Novel #2 Refugee by Alan Gratz

Three different kids.

One mission in common: ESCAPE.

Josef is a Jewish boy in 1930s Nazi Germany. With the threat of concentration camps looming, he and his family board a ship bound for the other side of the world...

Isabel is a Cuban girl in 1994. With riots and unrest plaguing her country, she and her family set out on a raft, hoping to find safety and freedom in America...

Mahmoud is a Syrian boy in 2015. With his homeland torn apart by violence and destruction, he and his family begin a long trek toward Europe...

All three young people will go on harrowing journeys in search of refuge. All will face unimaginable dangers—from drownings to bombings to betrayals. But for each of them, there is always the hope of tomorrow. And although Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud are separated by continents and decades, surprising connections will tie their stories together in the end.

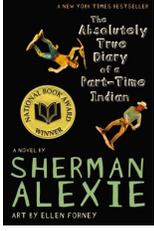


Novel #3 Travel Team by Mike Lupica

Twelve-year-old Danny Walker may be the smallest kid on the basketball court -- but don't tell him that. Because no one plays with more heart or court sense. But none of that matters when he is cut from his local travel team, the very same team his father led to national prominence as a boy. Danny's father, still smarting from his own troubles, knows

Danny isn't the only kid who was cut for the wrong reason, and together, this washed-up former player and a bunch of never-say-die kids prove that the heart simply cannot be measured.

Summer Reading Assignment 8th Grade - Jaskiewicz/Turovsky



Novel #4 **The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian** by Sherman Alexie, Ellen Forney

Bestselling author Sherman Alexie tells the story of Junior, a budding cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation. Determined to take his future into his own hands, Junior leaves his troubled school on the rez to attend an all-white farm town high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot.

Heartbreaking, funny, and beautifully written, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, which is based on the author's own experiences, coupled with poignant drawings by Ellen Forney that reflect the character's art, chronicles the contemporary adolescence of one Native American boy as he attempts to break away from the life he was destined to live.

*****NOTE: This novel does have instances of strong language and content. Please be advised.**

**Mrs. Turovsky has a few copies of this novel. *The other three, you will need to purchase or loan from the library.*

Summer Reading Assignment

8th Grade - Jaskiewicz/Turovsky

Choice Novel: Summer Reading Assignment

Please have this completed for the first day of the 2018-2019 school year. *Not completing the summer reading assignment will result in a significant negative impact on grades.*

STEP ONE: Choose **one** of the three choice books given to you. There is a brief description of each novel. Be sure to choose one that most interests you.

STEP TWO: Complete the assigned tasks thoroughly. One is a quote journal, and the other is an extended response. Be sure to put time and effort into each. You may type them in a Google Doc and share them with me @ Jill.Jaskiewicz@berkshireschools.org or Kaila.Turovsky@berkshireschools.org. Be sure that I can edit your document when you send it to me. Documents may be submitted early.

ASSIGNMENT:

You will be writing a quote journal that follows one of the two prompts (choose **one**) and fill out the chart below as you read.

Prompt A: The time and place in which a novel is set often has a huge influence on the rest of the plot. Discuss how the setting(s) within the novel have a big impact on what happens. How and why would the book be different if it were set in a different time period or location?

Questions to consider when looking for quotes for this prompt:

- Which quotes describe the setting?
- How does the setting potentially change throughout the book?
- What main events happen at a particular setting and why are they important to the story?
- How does the setting influence the character's beliefs, actions and personality?
- How does setting help influence the main message within the book?

Prompt B: What is the main conflict or problem within the novel? Explain why this problem exists and what the character(s) must undergo in order to overcome this conflict. If the conflict is not resolved, explain what would have to happen in order to resolve it.

Questions to consider when looking for quotes for this prompt:

- What are the main conflicts within the book (man vs. man, man vs. self, man vs. society, man vs. nature)?
- How are these conflicts resolved or do they remain unresolved?
- What main point(s) are made in the novel through the conflict?

Summer Reading Assignment
8th Grade - Jaskiewicz/Turovsky

JOURNAL PROMPT

On a separate sheet of paper (typed or hand-written), discuss a character you can closely relate with. Why did you particularly like this character and how/why can you relate? Be sure to use direct quotes from the novel to support your answer(s). This must be no less than two solid paragraphs, and each paragraph should be 5-7 sentences in length.