

Victoria ISD
8th Grade Pre-AP English
2019 Summer Reading Assignment

Welcome to Pre-AP 8th Grade English!

Victoria ISD requires Pre-AP students to complete summer reading in preparation for the upcoming academic year. This reading is mandatory; we ask that students obtain copies of the required texts and encourage them to start reading early in the summer.

Course Objective: The 8th Grade Pre-AP English course engages students in the careful reading and critical analyses of literature. This course includes intensive study of representative works of literary merit from various genres and time periods. The purpose of the Pre-AP course is to prepare students for college work and future AP English courses that give students the opportunity to receive college credit. The course will be intellectually intense, demanding of your time, and rigorous in nature.

Summer Reading: You will read one self-selected novel from the list below. The text and its corresponding assignment is to be completed by **August 23, 2019**. You will be required to complete an additional assignment related to these works during the first nine weeks grading period.

Self-selected Novel (choose one of the following):

- *I am Malala: Young Readers Edition* by Malala Yousafzai
- *The Lions of Little Rock* by Kristin Levine
- *The Boy Who Dared* by Susan Campbell Bartoletti
- *Refugee* by Alan Gratz

Summer Assignment: The following assignment must be completed and turned in by **August 23, 2019**.

- Read one of the self-selected novels from the above list. Complete a reading journal with a minimum of ten entries containing the elements specified on page 2 of this packet.

School Year Assignment: During the first unit, students will write an essay using details from the self-selected novel.

Grading: Grades for the summer and school year assignments will be included in the first nine-week grading period. The journal assignment for the self-selected novel will count as a summative grade. The score on the in-class essay will also count as a summative grade. Grading guidelines for the journal assignment are on page 2 of this packet.

Students who have assignments complete and turned in by **August 16, 2019** will be awarded 10 bonus points. Eleven points per day will be deducted from the grade for assignments turned in after **August 23, 2019**.

Novels for all summer reading assignments can be purchased at the following locations or online retailers.

- Redbird Books, 2210 N. Navarro, Victoria, TX, 361-572-0600
- Texian Books, 408 W. Forrest, Victoria, TX, 361-542-8708
- Amazon.com

Copies of some novels may be checked out or downloaded at the Victoria Public Library.

8th Grade Pre AP Guidelines for the Summer Reading Journal Assignment

The reading journal will contain a minimum of ten entries that span the entirety of the novel you selected from the list on the first page of the handout. The entries represent ten “chunks” of text that reflect content from the book as a whole. (If your ten entries reflect only the first half of the book, the assignment would be considered incomplete.)

On the cover of the journal include the Title, Author and student name as well as an illustration to represent the book. (5 points)

Please create and label a **table of contents** on the first page of the journal to indicate the book page numbers for each entry. (5 points)

Each entry will be worth 9 points and must contain the following elements in the order listed:

- **Quote:** (3 points) a significant piece of text from the section read. (1-3 sentences) May include character’s thoughts or dialogue, imagery, description, or narration of events. Quote should reflect an aspect different from what is in the illustration. Quotes are to be cited exactly as written by the author in the text.
- **Significance of quote:** (3 points) an explanation written in 2-3 complete sentences that tells the importance of the text quoted.
- **Personal response to the quote:** (3 points) a personal response to one of the following questions written in 2-3 sentences that
 - Questions – Ask about something in the quote that incites interest or wonder.
 - Connect – Make a connection to your life, the world, or another text.
 - Predict – Anticipate what will occur based on what is in the passage.
 - Reflect – Think deeply about what the passage means in a broad sense – not just to the characters in the story/author of the article. What conclusions can you draw about the world, about human nature, or just the way things work?
 - Evaluate – Make a judgment about what the author is trying to say

A maximum total of 100 points may be earned for the journal assignment.

Sample journal entry layout:

Pages read: _____ Quote: (include chapter and page reference) Significance of Quote:	Personal Response to the Quote:
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Student and Parent Acknowledgment Form

By signing below, I am agreeing that I have read and understand the 2019 Summer Reading Assignment for 8th Grade Pre-AP English and I agree to abide by assignment requirements.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent Contact Information:

Email: _____