

# Decatur City Schools Summer Reading

Each student in grades 9–12 will choose **one** book to read from the assigned list. (Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment students will need to see their instructors for further assignment instructions.) Students will either create a timeline **OR** give a book talk by Friday, August 23, from a novel on the thematic list below.

\*Note to parents: Some of the titles on this list contain mature content. Parental consent is advised.

<p><b>9th grade: Coming of Age</b></p>	<p><i>Monster</i>--Walter Dean Meyers <i>Gathering Blue</i>--Lois Lowry <i>Animal Farm</i>--George Orwell</p>
<p><b>10th grade: Journey</b></p>	<p><i>Ashes</i>--Laurie Halse Anderson <i>The Magic Strings of Frankie Presto</i>--Mitch Albom <i>A Separate Peace</i>--John Knowles</p>
<p><b>11th grade: The American Experience</b></p>	<p><i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i>--Zora Neale Hurston <i>The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven</i>--Sherman Alexie <i>The Joy Luck Club</i>--Amy Tan</p>
<p><b>12th grade: Individual in Society</b></p>	<p><i>Catch 22</i>--Joseph Heller <i>Black Boy</i>--Richard Wright <i>I'm Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter</i>--Erika L. Sánchez</p>

## Timeline Guidelines

Students must complete the Timeline no later than Friday, August 23, 2019. Assignment must be created in Google Slides and uploaded online. Students should check with their teacher to determine if the assignment should be submitted to Google Classroom or Canvas.

Create a timeline on Google Slides of at least **FIVE** major events in your novel. Timelines **MUST** include major characters and conflicts. Follow these guidelines:

- Events must reflect the correct sequence of events
- EACH event needs at least one example of important textual evidence (a quote) and commentary. Evidence should be properly cited in MLA format.
  - Commentary should:
    - Explain the quote **AND** its importance to the plot.
    - Make a connection between the plot, characters, and conflict to the grade level theme.

Your project will be scored on your ability to correctly follow directions, include appropriate information from the novel, and textual citations.

# Book Talk Guidelines

Students must complete the Book Talk no later than Friday, August 23, 2019. Assignment must be created in Google Slides and uploaded online. Students should check with their teacher to determine if the assignment should be submitted to Google Classroom or Canvas.

## Opening

Hook your audience!

- Read a quote from the book
- Ask a question of your audience
- Introduce the main character
- Vividly set the scene

You may use a combination of a few of the above techniques. Make sure to also give the title and author of the book.

## Summary

In a paragraph or two, summarize the plot of the book. Be sure that your summary introduces the main character, identifies the problem, and leads us toward the solution - **without giving away the ending!**

## Impression

Share your opinion!

- How did you feel about the book?
- What did you think of the author?
- Would you recommend it to others?
- What would you rate it?

## Closing

Entice your audience!

- Ask a rhetorical question
- Read a quote from the book
- Use a cliffhanger

You may use a combination of the above techniques.

Remember, your book talk should flow nicely like a commercial. **It should not be a giant list answering these questions.**

Link to help: [YouTube video](#)