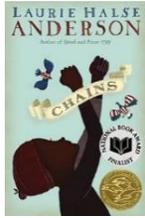


8th Grade Summer Reading

Students entering eight grade will be required to read one fiction text from the list below. Students will complete a graffiti journal, which will be used for book club discussions at the beginning of the school year.

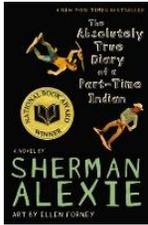
***Parents, please note that some of the texts may contain mature elements. Please preview the text your child selects if you have concerns about mature content.**

Fiction



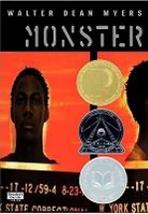
Chains - Laurie Halse Anderson

As the Revolutionary War begins, thirteen-year-old Isabel wages her own fight...for freedom. Promised freedom upon the death of their owner, she and her sister, Ruth, in a cruel twist of fate become the property of a malicious New York City couple, the Locktons, who have no sympathy for the American Revolution and even less for Ruth and Isabel. When Isabel meets Curzon, a slave with ties to the Patriots, he encourages her to spy on her owners, who know details of British plans for invasion. She is reluctant at first, but when the unthinkable happens to Ruth, Isabel realizes her loyalty is available to the bidder who can provide her with freedom.



***Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian - Sherman Alexie**

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.



Monster - Walter Dean Myers

This *New York Times* bestselling novel from acclaimed author Walter Dean Myers tells the story of Steve Harmon, a teenage boy in juvenile detention and on trial. Presented as a screenplay of Steve's own imagination, and peppered with journal entries, the book shows how one single decision can change our whole lives.

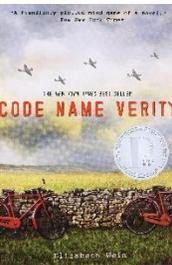
Piecing Me Together - Renée Watson

Piecing Me Together recently received the Coretta Scott King Award from the American Library Association, and it's also a John Newbery Medal honor book. Jade believes she must get out of her neighborhood if she's ever going to succeed. Her mother says she has to take every opportunity. She has. She accepted a scholarship to a mostly-white private school and even Saturday morning test prep opportunities. But some opportunities feel more demeaning than helpful. Like an invitation to join Women to Women, a mentorship program for "at-risk" girls. Except really, it's for black girls. From "bad" neighborhoods. But Jade doesn't need support. And just because her mentor is black doesn't mean she understands Jade. And maybe there are some things Jade could show these successful women about the real world and finding ways to make a real difference.

Honors - for students considering taking the class for honors credit

***Code Name Verity - Elizabeth Wein**

Oct. 11th, 1943 - A British spy plane crashes in Nazi-occupied France. Its pilot and passenger are best friends. One of the girls has a chance at survival. The other has lost the game before it's barely begun. When "Verity" is arrested by the Gestapo, she's sure she doesn't stand a chance. As a secret agent captured in enemy territory, she's living a spy's worst nightmare. Her Nazi interrogators give her a simple choice: reveal her mission or face a grisly execution. As she intricately weaves her confession, Verity uncovers her past, how she became friends with the pilot Maddie, and why she left Maddie in the wrecked fuselage of their plane. On each new scrap of paper, Verity battles for her life, confronting her views on courage and failure and her desperate hope to make it home. But will trading her secrets be enough to save her from the enemy?



Fiction Assignment:

Instructions: As you read your fiction text of choice, you will be completing a running graffiti journal (see example on following page). Your journal may be in a Google Doc or in a separate notebook. You are responsible for **5 total journal entries**. Please remember to respond to each section's reading in the following 6 ways. Journals will be graded on substance, completion, and overall effort.

Part I: Journal Guidelines and Scoring Scale

Include the title of the novel and the page numbers covered in each journal entry.

Ex: *Monster*, Pages 1-25.

1. Connection – 10 points
 - a. **One specific connection** made to the day's reading with a complete description explaining how/why you made this connection. Type of connection stated (text to self, text to text, text to world).
2. Summary – 10 points
 - a. A brief summary outlining the most important events found within the day's reading passage. Aim for 4-6 sentences.
3. Quotations – 15 points
 - a. Select **one quotation** that stood out to you the most and **explain why**. Provide context for the quote (who said it, when/why) and include page numbers.
 - b. Select **one quotation** that reveals your thoughts on one of the various literary devices. Each journal entry only needs one literary device and since there are 5 devices, a different one should be used for each entry.
 - i. Setting
 - ii. Characterization
 - iii. Conflict (name the type of conflict: character vs. character, character vs. self, character vs. society, character vs. nature)
 - iv. Theme
 - v. Figurative Language (simile, metaphor, personification, imagery) or Symbolism
4. Vocabulary – 5 points
 - a. **Two vocabulary** terms defined
 - i. Select either words you do not know, slang terms or terms that reveal dialect, or words that have an impact on the reading
5. Picture – 5 points
 - a. **One picture** relating to your thoughts on the day's reading
 - b. If you select a picture from the Internet, you must include a citation
6. Word or Phrase – 5 points
 - a. One word or phrase that best describes your opinion of the day's reading.

=50 point total for 5 completed journal entries