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.

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

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](#)

Timeline Rubric

	Above Target	Target	Below Target
Sequence of Events	Major events of the plot are placed in the correct sequence within the presentation.	Some events of the plot are placed in the correct sequence within the presentation while some are out of sequence.	Most events of the plot are placed in the incorrect sequence within the presentation.
Events, Characters, and Connection to Theme	All of the main characters and events in the plot are mentioned. Connections to the grade level theme are clearly stated in the presentation.	Some of the main characters and events in the plot are mentioned. Connections to the grade level theme are stated in the presentation.	Few of the main characters and events in the plot are mentioned. Connections to the grade level theme are vague and/or missing.
Textual Evidence	Presentation uses the appropriate number of textual citations (which include page numbers). [Minimum: five quotes]	Presentation uses fewer than the minimum number of quotations or a few quotations are incorrectly cited.	Presentation does not use any textual evidence or the quotations are incorrectly cited. .
Creativity/Use of Google Slides	Slideshow looks appealing and colorful. No glaring grammar errors.	Slideshow is sufficient with only a few minor grammar errors.	Slideshow is filled with major grammar errors or was hard for the audience to follow.

Book Talk Rubric

	Above Target	Target	Below Target
Opening/Closing	Grabs and holds listeners' attention in order to make listeners interested in reading the novel.	Makes listeners mildly interested in the novel.	Does not spark interest in the novel; speaker isn't really sure why others should read it.
Plot information	Includes all of the important plot events (without giving away the ending) and characters.	Includes some of the important plot events (without giving away the ending) and characters.	Includes a few of the important plot events and characters and/or gives away the ending.
Presentation	Speaker is poised and makes eye contact with audience. Delivery is the appropriate speed, and voice is audible.	Student is mostly prepared and makes eye contact most of the time. Delivery speed and voice are ok.	Speaker is unprepared or unrehearsed. Delivery is too fast/slow and/or it is difficult to hear,
Creativity/Use of Google Slides	Slideshow looks appealing and colorful. No glaring grammar errors.	Slideshow is sufficient with only a few minor grammar errors.	Slideshow is filled with major grammar errors or was hard for the audience to follow.