Summer 2019

Dear Rising Eighth Graders,

The summer awaits you, and so do a handful of books that we have chosen to enrich and supplement your days of sun and fun. Even if you are sitting on the beach with sand massaging the crevices of your toes, engage with your book *actively*. Mark up the pages with your highlights, circling, underlines, and brackets. Jot your notes, questions, takeaways, and reactions in the margins. Look up definitions for unfamiliar words and scribble them down. Stick post-its here and there to draw you back to passages you have flagged. Be curious! Ask yourself, *Why is this character making these choices? What is the lesson the author is conveying here? Which words did I find striking?* Chances are, if you simply ask these questions, you are performing the type of analysis that will be required of you next year.

Here is your summer assignment:

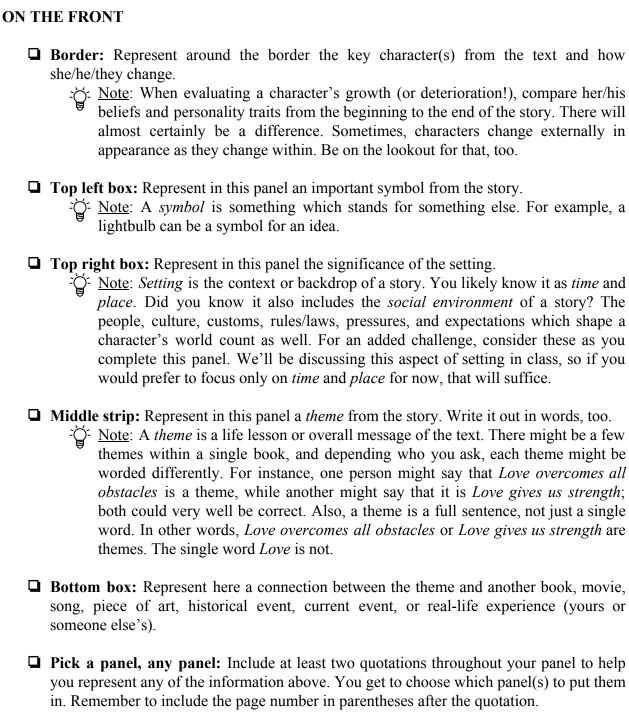
- > Read two (2) books from the provided list.
- ➤ Create one (1) Book Collage. I recommend doing so for the book you preferred of the two. A Book Collage is a visual and creative representation of key ideas from a text using illustrations, words, and quotations. More detailed instructions are enclosed. Be prepared to discuss your Book Collage the first day of school and to do some in-class writing about the texts. Take pride in your Book Collage, too; it will decorate our classroom!

I so look forward to welcoming you to 8th grade in person. Until then, enjoy yourselves and your reading this summer. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email me at elisabeth.levin@gbwl.org.

Happy reading!
Ms. Levin

BOOK COLLAGE

A Book Collage is a visual and creative representation of key ideas from a text using illustrations, doodled words, and quotations. This project is an opportunity to showcase your critical thinking about a text as well as your creativity and effort. The front will be the creative side, and the back will provide some explanation. Be deliberate and detailed as you write and draw, taking care to include the elements below.



ON THE BACK

On the back, provide written captions (2-5 sentences) for the choices you made for each panel on the front. What did you draw/write/represent, and why? Assume that the audience has not read your book in your explanations. You are welcome to type this or write it by hand. If you do so on a separate piece of paper, tape it to the back. Proofread vigorously. Oh, and be careful of using marker or Sharpie directly on the backside of your collage lest it bleed through.

SAMPLE

