

# Mansfield ISD Reads!

7th & 8th Grade English/Language Arts/Reading

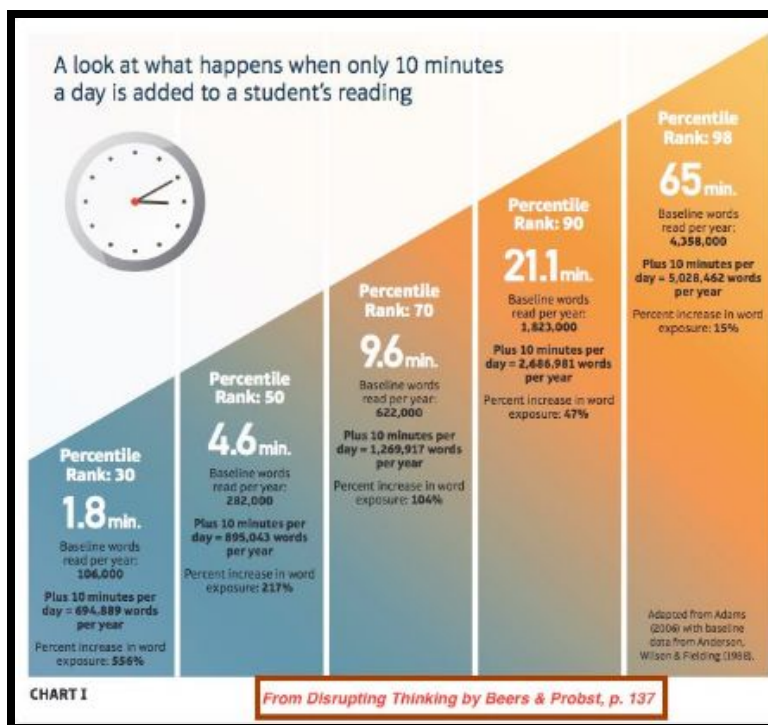
7th & 8th Grade Pre-AP English/Language Arts/Reading



Independent reading has many benefits:

- Support student's growth
- Improves vocabulary
- Improves comprehension
- Improves test scores
- Improves writing skills

During the school year, Mansfield ISD asks students to read independently books of their choice. With this in mind, and in an effort to promote a passion for reading, MISD recommends that students continue to read over the summer months. Athletes, musicians, and dancers know that if they did not practice their skills for several months, their skills might diminish. The same applies to reading. Research shows that if you do not read for several months, you lose some of your skill.



There are a variety of ways to access books during the summer:

- Mansfield ISD students have access to digital books available through their campus. See your campus librarian for login information.

- Mansfield Public Library <https://www.mansfieldtexas.gov/library>
- Arlington Public Library <http://arlingtonlibrary.org>
- Kennedale Public Library <http://www.kennedalelibrary.org>
- Grand Prairie Public Library <http://gptx.org/library>

It's important for parents to be involved in book selections. Parents and students will want to preview their potential book choices prior to reading and discuss if the book is the "right fit" for the student. One quick way to preview the subject matter is to read reviews

from online sites like Barnes & Noble, Amazon, or Goodreads.com. Prior to the end of the current school year, students are also encouraged to seek help from their teachers and librarians in making book selections.

As students read this summer, it is highly encouraged that they annotate their books to help them develop good reading habits and comprehend the text. Annotation directions and question stems have been provided if needed.

Thank you for supporting reading and creating lifelong learners in our students.

Theresa Pollok  
MISD Secondary Literacy & Library Coordinator

## Important Links & Information

### Mansfield ISD Middle School Campuses - Library Websites

<p><a href="#"><u>James Coble</u></a></p> 	<p><a href="#"><u>T.A. Howard</u></a></p> 	<p><a href="#"><u>Linda Jobe</u></a></p> 
<p><a href="#"><u>Danny Jones</u></a></p> 	<p><a href="#"><u>Brooks Wester &amp; Jerry Knight STEM Academy</u></a></p> 	<p><a href="#"><u>Rogene Worley</u></a></p> 

### Need help selecting titles to read?

#### [Texas Library Association: Reading Lists](#)



#### [YALSA: Best Fiction for Young Adults](#)

#### [YALSA: Award for Excellence in Nonfiction](#)



# **Mansfield ISD - Summer Reading Annotation Guide**

Annotating keeps the reader engaged with the text. While you are reading this summer and during the school year, use one or more of these strategies to mark the book and include your thoughts and questions.

## **How to annotate?**

- Write comments to ask questions, relate to characters, make connections to other texts, and/or world events, etc.
- Write comments about the novel's characters, theme, author's craft, plot, word choice, or literary elements.

## **Suggested annotation strategies:**

- Star any passages that are very important: events, decisions, or relationships.
- Underline any sentences that made you think or appealed to you and describe your thinking.
- Circle/highlight words that are unfamiliar or make a list of them in the back of the book.
- Put a question mark by areas that you were confused about or did not fully understand.
- Bracket any sentences that exemplify the theme, author's craft, literary elements, or word choice. Write your thoughts about it.

## **Suggested sentence stems for annotation:**

### ***Characterization***

How does he/she change?

What insights does the character gain?

### ***What big ideas are being developed?***

What conflict arises?

What theme does the author establish? What passages support this theme?

### ***What techniques does the writer use and why?***

What is the effect of the literary devices being used (e.g. foreshadowing, personification)?

Where does the author use punctuation and sentence structure effectively?

What are the key passages? Why are they significant?

Notice sentences/passages. Make a comment about how they affect the story.

### ***Author's Purpose/Craft***

It's interesting how the author...

Something I noticed about the author's style...

I do/don't like this author's writing style because...

The author used this device/figurative language because...

The point of view is important because...

The effect of this figurative language is...

### ***Thought starters***

The descriptions of \_\_\_ show \_\_\_

The point of view shifts here because...

This scene happens now because...

This contributes to the plot by...

I noticed/think...

I wonder...

I'm surprised that...

I realized...

If \_\_\_, then...

I'm not sure why...

This excerpt makes me think that...

I used to think \_\_\_, but now I think \_\_\_

I still think \_\_\_, but I'd like to add \_\_\_.

This reminds me of...

An experience I have had like that...

This reminds me of the book \_\_\_\_\_ because...

In my mind I picture \_\_\_\_\_ when I read \_\_\_\_\_

I agree with \_\_\_\_\_ because...