



2020 Summer Reading

Grade 8 English

ENGLISH

Students are required to read three books from grade-specific lists. The English department annually refines these lists to appeal to student interests and broaden their exposure to a range of literary styles. English teachers draw from these readings for class assignments throughout the school year.

Required Reading:

- *Eleanor Roosevelt: A Life of Discovery* by Russell Freedman
- *Bread and Roses, Too* by Katherine Paterson

Independent Choice:

Choose ONE of the following texts. An overview of each book may be found on Common Sense Media: <https://www.common sense media.org>.

Nonfiction:

Firefly Letters by Margarita Engle

Phineas Gage: The Gruesome but True Story about Brain Science by John Fleischman

Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank

Historical Fiction:

Fever 1793 by Laurie Halse Anderson

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith ** This book selection needs to be approved by a parent

The Book Thief by Marcus Zusak

Contemporary Fiction:

I Kill the Mockingbird by Paul Acampora

Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson ** This book selection needs to be approved by a parent

Towers Falling by Jewell Parker Rhodes

Mystery:

Dear Irene by Jan Burke

And Then There Were None by Agatha Christie

Chasing Secrets by Jennifer Choldenko

Poetry:

Pieces of Georgia by Jen Bryant

Enchanted Air: Two Culture, Two Wings: A Memoir by Margarita Engle

Paper Hearts by Meg Wiviott

Fantasy:

Eragon by Christopher Paolini

The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien

The Uglies by Scott Westerfeld

Required Writing:

Eleanor Roosevelt: A Life of Discovery Vocab

This vocabulary list includes words you might come across in any reading as well as terms and events related to this period in American history. Please define all words on a separate piece of paper and be ready for a vocabulary quiz during the first week of school. Next to each term is the page on which the words can be found within the text. Dictionaries and/or encyclopedias may be used to find clear definitions if needed. There will be a quiz over these words during the first week of class.

1. Debutante (6)
2. Sanitarium (11)
3. Exile (11)
4. Reproved (11)
5. Diphtheria (14)
6. Scarlet Fever (14)
7. Desolate (15)
8. Tempestuous (15)
9. Conscientious (15)
10. Finishing School (23)
11. Carouse (30)
12. Junior League (33)
13. Immigrant (33)
14. Ghetto (33)
15. Jaunty (38)
16. Strenuous (40)

17. Bewildered (48)
18. Acquiesce (52)
19. Armistice (64)
20. League of Nations (65)
21. League of Women Voters (69)
22. Legislative (69)
23. Polio (71)
24. Vigorous (72)
25. Bolster (74)
26. Democratic National Convention (79)
27. Calamity (79)
28. Great Depression (97)
29. Inauguration (98)
30. Flabbergasted (98)
31. The New Deal (106)
32. Jubilant (113)
33. World Court (118)
34. Totalitarian (127)
35. Fascist (127)
36. Imperial (127)
37. World War 2 (128)
38. Immigration Quota (128)
39. Pearl Harbor (133)
40. Harry S. Truman (142)
41. Bereft (147)
42. United Nations (147)
43. Repatriation (149)
44. Universal Declaration of Human Rights (152)