Stafford Middle School

Honors English 7

Summer Reading Assignment

Dear Students and Families,

This summer, you will choose **one** of the novels listed below to read and complete a two-part assignment for the 2025 first six weeks of seventh grade. Please make sure to **review all parts of the assignment before you start reading** so you'll know what to look for as you go.

- *The Fourteenth Goldfish* by Jennifer L. Holm
- *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan

The recommendation is to purchase your own copy from Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Half Priced Books, or any number of other retailers, so you can annotate and have a conversation with the book. You may be able to find copies available online, or you can also visit your public library such as HPL - Home - Visit Us at Houston Public Library or Home | Fort Bend County Libraries to check out a copy.

📅 Due Dates:

- **Minor Assignment:** Due Monday, **August 18, 2025**
  The minor grade assignment is **Novel Menu Worksheet**
- **Major Assignment:** Due Monday, **August 25, 2025**
  The major grade assignment is

📘 Assignment Overview:

Part 1: Novel Menu Worksheet
Choose **two chapters** from the book you read and complete a **Novel Menu Worksheet** (see the attached pages for instructions).

Part 2: Creative Project – Choose ONE of the following:

- 🎥 Create a short video review sharing your thoughts about the book
- 🎨 Turn the book into a graphic novel or comic
- 🖼️ Draw and explain **5 key scenes or characters** from the story

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Williams at **Gabrielle.Williams@staffordmsd.org**.
Be sure to include **your full name** in the email and use the subject line:
"Honors English 7 Summer Reading Assignment Question."

I look forward to seeing your creative work and thoughtful reading!
Have a great summer!

📖 Novel Menu Worksheet

Name: _____ Date: _____ Novel Title/Chapter: _____

STARTER – Before Reading

Before you read choose ONE of these pre-reading strategies (2-4 sentences):

- What questions come to mind when you look at the title, cover, or genre of this novel or chapter? Write three questions
- Based on the genre, what do you predict will happen in this chapter? What clues lead you to this prediction, and how might you confirm or revise your prediction as you read?
- What is your purpose for reading this chapter? Is it to learn something, enjoy the story, or find connections to your life? Explain why this goal matters to you.

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MAIN DISH – During or After Reading

Choose ONE prompt below and respond in a detailed paragraph (4–6 sentences):

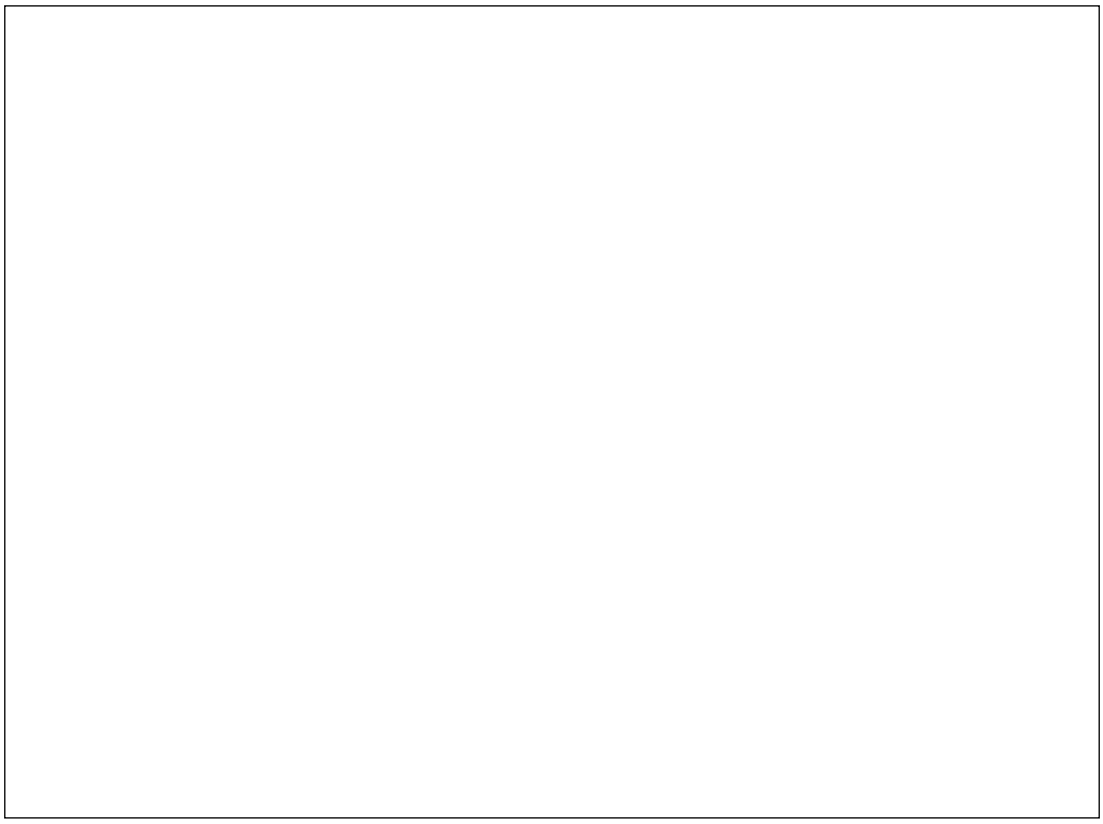
- Summarize what you read in your own words. What was the main idea, and what were the most important events or details?
- Choose a character from this chapter. What one word best describes them, then provide specific evidence from the text supports your description and an explanation to justify your answer?
- Compare and contrast two characters or settings from the story. How are they alike? How are they different, and what does this reveal about the story?
- Rewrite a key moment in the chapter from a different character's point of view. How might their thoughts and feelings change the way the scene is understood?

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DESSERT – Creative Reflection

Choose ONE prompt below and respond creatively in a paragraph: (3-5 sentences)

• Imagine a character from this chapter posted on social media. What would they say? Write a "post" in their voice, including hashtags, emojis, and a reply from another character.
• If your character were a recipe, what would the ingredients be? Explain the personality traits or qualities that make up who they are.
• Describe a powerful scene from the chapter. How would you represent it visually (drawing or digitally)? In writing, explain why this moment stands out and what it means to the story.



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Part 2:

Choose **ONE** of the following project options to showcase your understanding of the novel:

- **Turn the book into a graphic novel or comic book.**

- **Illustrate 5 key scenes or characters from the book**

Using the comic-strip-planningsheet to get started and following the ComicStripRubric

Or **create a video review** of the book.

7th Grade Video Book Review Rubric: Summer Reading Project

Criteria	5 - Excellent	4 - Proficient	3 - Satisfactory	2 - Needs Improvement	1 - Incomplete/Unsatisfactory
Content Accuracy & Understanding	Provides a clear, detailed summary of the book, including protagonist(s), plot, conflict, and resolution. Demonstrates deep understanding of themes and ideas.	Provides an accurate summary with most key elements (protagonist(s), plot, conflict). Mentions themes with some explanation.	Provides a basic summary, but some essential elements are missing or unclear. Mentions themes but with limited understanding.	Summary is incomplete or unclear; key elements missing; themes are not identified or misunderstood.	Does not provide a summary or show no understanding of the book's content or themes.
Personal Connection & Motivation	Clearly explains why the book was chosen, including references to book bloggers or recommendations. Share thoughtful subjective opinions about the story.	Explains why the book was chosen with some detail; mentions recommendation source if applicable. Give your opinion about the story.	Mentions why the book was chosen but explanation lacks detail or clarity; basic opinion shared.	Gives little or unclear explanation of book choice; opinion about story is vague or missing.	Does not explain book choice or opinion.
Analysis of Themes & Audience	Insightfully discusses major themes and ideas explored in	Discusses themes and ideas with insight. Identifies the	Mentions themes but lacks depth; identifies target	Themes and audience are mentioned but are	Does not discuss themes or target audience.

Criteria	5 - Excellent	4 - Proficient	3 - Satisfactory	2 - Needs Improvement	1 - Incomplete/Unsatisfactory
	the book. Clearly identifies the target audience and who would enjoy the book.	target audience with clarity.	audience generally.	unclear or inaccurate.	
Recommendation & Justification	Provides a strong, clear recommendation with reasons why others should or should not read the book.	Provides a recommendation with reasons, though some may lack clarity or detail.	Gives a recommendation but lacks clear justification.	Recommendation is unclear or weakly supported.	No recommendation or justification provided.
Video Presentation & Length	Video is 5-10 minutes long, well-organized, engaging, with clear audio and visuals. Student speaks clearly and confidently.	Video meets length requirement, organized and mostly clear. Audio and visuals are good.	Video is slightly under/over time, somewhat organized. Audio or visuals have minor issues.	Video is too short/long, disorganized, or has poor audio/visual quality.	Video is missing, too short, or has major audio/visual issues making it hard to understand.