Prep English 8 Summer Reading

REQUIRED SUMMER READING	ASSESSMENT
The False Prince by Jennifer A. Nielsen	Standardized Quiz to be given within the first week of school

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(The following list is COMPLETELY OPTIONAL. The only REQUIRED READING for the summer is *The False Prince* by Jennifer A. Nielsen.

***A note to parents*: While we are choosing books for literary value to pique students' interest, you should use your own discretion for content. Because the reading level and content level will vary within this list, we encourage you to read over the list with your child and choose a book you feel is most suitable for their interest and maturity level.**

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1. ***The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*** (Any book in this series) by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (Classic/Mystery) He's the world's best detective; he's you! The crimes, the cases, the clues ... they're yours to sort through in this choose your path adaptation. You make the choices. You decide what happens. Will you survive? Put yourself in the story and find out!

2. ***Around the World in Eighty Days*** by Jules Verne (Classic/Adventure) Phileas Fogg, an Englishman, undertakes a hasty world tour as the result of a bet made at his London club.

3. ***A Break with Charity: A Story About the Salem Witch Trials*** by Ann Rinaldi (Historical Fiction) Susanna desperately wants to join the circle of girls who meet every week at the parsonage. What she doesn't realize is that the girls are about to set off a torrent of false accusations leading to the imprisonment and execution of countless innocent people. Susanna faces a painful choice. Should she keep quiet and let the witch-hunt panic continue, or should she "break charity" with the group--and risk having her own family members named as witches?

4. ***The Dark Unwinding*** by Sharon Cameron (Historical Fiction/Mystery/Suspense) When a rumor that her uncle is squandering the family fortune surfaces, Katharine Tulman is sent to his estate to have him committed to an asylum. But instead of a lunatic, Katharine discovers a genius inventor, who is employing a village of nine hundred people rescued from the workhouses of London. Katharine is soon torn between protecting her own livelihood and preserving the peculiar community she grows to care for. With twists and turns at every corner, this heart-racing adventure will captivate readers.

5. ***The Hangman's Curse*** by Frank Peretti (Suspense/Fantasy) In Baker, Washington, three popular student athletes lie in an incoherent coma, with loss of muscle coordination, severe paranoia, and hallucinations. It's whispered that they're victims of Abel Frye--a curse that's haunted the school since a student died there in the 1930s. Now the curse is spreading, and students are running scared. The Veritas Project must go undercover to find the truth . . . before it's too late.

6. ***The Invisible Man*** by H.G. Wells (Classic/Science Fiction) A quiet English country village is disturbed by

the arrival of a mysterious stranger who keeps his face hidden and his back to everyone.

7. ***Journey to the Center of the Earth*** by Jules Verne (Classic/Science Fiction) Ascience-fiction story about a scientist who leads a group on a treacherous journey to the center of the earth and discovers a lost civilization.
8. ***The Mysterious Benedict Society*** by Trenton Lee Stewart (Mystery/Humor) In the end just four very special children will succeed. Their challenge: to go on a secret mission that only the most intelligent and resourceful children could complete. With their newfound friendship at stake, will they be able to pass the most important test of all?

9. ***Shaken*** by Tim Tebow (Nonfiction/Autobiography) In this powerful book, Heisman Trophy winner Tim Tebow passionately shares glimpse of his journey staying grounded in the face of disappointment, criticism, and intense media scrutiny. Following an exceptional college football career with the Florida Gators and promising playoff run the Denver Broncos, Tebow was traded to the New York Jets. He was released after one season. Tebow talks about what he's learned along the way, building confidence in his identity in God, not the world.

10. ***Johnny Tremain*** by Esther Forbes (Historical Fiction) A story filled with danger and excitement, *Johnny Tremain* tells of the turbulent, passionate times in Boston just before the Revolutionary War. Johnny, a young apprentice silversmith, is caught up in a dramatic involvement with James Otis, John Hancock, and John and Samuel Adams in the exciting currents and undercurrents that were to lead to the Boston Tea Party and the Battle of Lexington—and finally, a touching resolution of Johnny's personal life.

11. ***Treasure Island*** by Robert Louis Stevenson (Classic/Adventure) A mysterious seaman hides at a country inn; cutthroats raid a sleepy English village; suddenly, young Jim Hawkins becomes the owner of a map leading to a lost tropical island and a fortune in stolen gold. Three adventurers—Jim, Squire Trelawney, and Dr. Livesey—set out to find the treasure.

12. ***A Night Divided*** by Jennifer A. Nielsen (Historical Fiction) With the sudden rise of the Berlin Wall, twelve-year-old Gerta finds her family divided overnight. Will she and her brother Fritz, who are trapped on the Soviet-controlled eastern side with their mother, be able to devise a way to secretly cross the forbidden Wall and reunite with their father and brother without being caught?