



Entering 8th Grade (7th to 8th) Summer Reading











Checklist At a Glance:

- Read the required text *Ghost* by Jason Reynolds.

- Complete the provided writing guide (there is a choice of a handwritten version to print out **or** a digital version to make a copy in Google Drive for typed responses)
 -  7-8 Ghost Handwritten.pdf
 -  7-8 Ghost Digital (go to “File” and then “Make a copy”)
- OR create an artifact on *Ghost*** (the artifact could be in the form of an essay, visual representation, series of poems, recorded film, music score, or presentation)

- Students should then read a second text of their choosing

- For extra credit**, read one or more of the sequels to *Ghost: Coach, Lu, Patina, and/or Sunny*. There is no order to the sequels. There are writing guides made for each one as well:
 -  7-8 Coach Handwritten.pdf
 -  7-8 Coach Digital (go to “File” and then “Make a copy”)
 -  7-8 Lu Handwritten.pdf
 -  7-8 Lu Digital (go to “File” and then “Make a copy”)
 -  7-8 Patina Handwritten.pdf
 -  7-8 Patina Digital (go to “File” and then “Make a copy”)
 -  7-8 Sunny Handwritten.pdf
 -  7-8 Sunny Digital (go to “File” and then “Make a copy”)

Frequently Asked Questions:

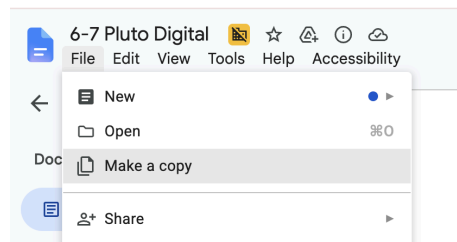


Should we do the writing guide or create the artifact?

While students may have a choice between completing the writing guide(s) and creating an artifact, we recommend the writing guide(s) to support with daily sentence writing and response-level writing.

If we do the writing guide, should we use the digital or print out the handwritten copy?

While we often recommend using the handwritten guide, the digital guide would support students who may have difficulty with handwriting and/or spelling. Do note that the digital version will need to be made into a copy. See the screenshot for how to go to “File” and then choose “Make a copy”:



What if we want to read one of the four sequels for *Ghost*? Is there an order to the four separate sequels: Coach, Lu, Patina, and Sunny?

We will offer extra credit to any students who complete the writing guides for any of the four sequels to *Ghost*. There is no implicit order to the four sequels. You can find out more about each one below.

Reminder: Students who attend AIM's Summer program **DO NOT** have to complete their summer reading or math packets.

Required Reading:

Ghost by Jason Reynolds



Running. That's all that Ghost (real name Castle Cranshaw) has ever known. But never for a track team. Nope, his game has always been ball. But when Ghost impulsively challenges an elite sprinter to a race - and wins - the Olympic medalist track coach sees he has something else: a lot of anger, and a past that he tries to outrun. Can Ghost harness his raw talent for speed, and meld with the team, or will his past finally catch up to him?



A bit about each optional sequel:

Coach Otis Brody Jr., remember that name. He's so fast he's gonna catch his dreams. Dreams of running in the Olympics. Dreams of outrunning his hero. Mr. 9.99 aka Carl Lewis. Maybe he'll even run so fast that he can run his way out of his town: away from the haters at school, away from what really goes down at the barbershop, something that's sucking in adults and kids alike. But no one and nothing (not even a pair of brand-new Jordans) is gonna make him fast enough to run away from...

Lu was born to be co-captain of the Defenders. Well, actually, he was born albino, but that's got nothing to do with being a track star. Lu has swagger, plus the talent to back it up, and with all that - not to mention the gold chains and diamond earrings - no one's gonna outshine *him*.

Patina "Patty" Jones is the fastest girl on the Defenders track team. Makes sense, she's got a lot to run for: For the kids at the fancy new school she's now being sent to, to show the ones who taunt her that she's gonna be someone someday. For her fellow Defenders' newbies - Ghost, Sunny, and Lu - to make them proud. She runs for her little sister, Maddy, who relies on Patty to show her how to be brave and strong. And she runs for her mother, who can never run again.

Sunny Lancaster is a winner. *Wih-winner*. As the best runner in the 1600 meters, Sunny can beat anyone by, well, a mile. But for Sunny, winning is boring. *Buh-boring*. Truth is, Sunny doesn't like running. Never has. What Sunny really loves... is dancing.

First Day of School



Students should come to the first day of school with the **completed writing guide(s)** and/or a **completed artifact** for the required text, ***Ghost* by Jason Reynolds**. Finally, students should be ready to discuss the texts that they read over the summer. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Mrs. Mellon over the summer. We look forward to collaborating to support your students' reading and writing success.

We thank you in advance for your support with this important endeavor and hope that you and your student have a wonderful time enjoying many great books together this summer.