

Summer Reading Expectations

Summer 2026



Advanced Language Arts Grade 8

Welcome to Advanced Language Arts 8! This summer you are required to read **two** novels: one must be **fiction** and the other must be **nonfiction**. Each novel should be over 150 pages in length and within your lexile level (or at least on a middle school interest level).

Below you will find a link to a list of recommended novels. These are recommendations. You are **not** required to choose from this list:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oxFMC1Y1S7haB9bi7igPRqXMGpvJxuKRh92GMQ999Mw/edit?usp=sharing>

While you read, be sure to take notes to help you remember what you read. You will then complete an assignment for each novel as outlined below:

For the Fiction Novel:

Create a travel brochure/poster for the setting of your book. Your project should:

- be colorful and creative
- be related to the setting of the book
- contain information about the place that would make someone want to visit (or maybe NOT want to visit!)
- include at least three direct quotes from your book and include page numbers and an analysis of each quote.
- Be done by hand

For the Nonfiction Novel:

You will complete 20 double-entry journals for this book as you read. Please click the link below for the double-entry journal template. You will be told to make a copy of the document upon clicking the link. You will be submitting this assignment on Google Classroom when school starts.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vqVrRJ5zTMYFZj0yecWNbMQe-hsJqjffBffXWCOUNME/copy>

Both assignments will be a grade on Infinite Campus and will be due in class on Friday, September 11, 2026.

Click the Link Below to View an Example of the Fiction Assignment:

 **Example 1 (FICTION).pdf**

Fiction Assignment Rubric

Criterion	Exemplary	Proficient	Emerging	Incomplete
Grammar, Spelling, and Punctuation	Your work shows careful proofreading with virtually no errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation, making your ideas clear and easy to understand.	Your work contains a few minor errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation, but these do not significantly distract from understanding your ideas.	Your work contains several noticeable errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation that sometimes make it difficult to understand your ideas.	Your work contains frequent and significant errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation that make it hard to understand your ideas.
Use of Textual Evidence	For the fiction novel, you skillfully and purposefully selected at least three relevant quotes, correctly cited them with page numbers, and provided insightful analysis explaining how each quote connects to the setting.	For the fiction novel, you included at least three relevant quotes and cited them with page numbers, and your analysis explains how each quote relates to the setting.	For the fiction novel, you included fewer than three quotes, some quotes may not clearly relate to the setting, or the analysis is weak or missing.	For the fiction novel, you did not include quotes or citations, or the quotes are irrelevant to the setting.
Demonstrates Understanding of the Fiction Novel	Your brochure/poster clearly and creatively showcases a deep understanding of the fiction novel's setting, highlighting key aspects that are significant to the story.	Your brochure/poster shows a good understanding of the fiction novel's setting and includes relevant information.	Your brochure/poster shows a limited understanding of the fiction novel's setting, and some information may be unclear or not directly related.	Your brochure/poster does not demonstrate an understanding of the fiction novel's setting or includes irrelevant information.
Fiction Brochure/Poster Creativity and Relevance	Your travel brochure/poster is exceptionally creative, visually appealing, and directly and effectively relates to the setting of your fiction novel, making it engaging and informative.	Your travel brochure/poster is creative, colorful, and clearly related to the setting of your fiction novel.	Your travel brochure/poster shows some creativity and relates to the setting of your fiction novel, but may lack visual appeal or clear connections.	Your travel brochure/poster lacks creativity, is not visually appealing, or does not clearly relate to the setting of your fiction novel.

Nonfiction Rubric

Criterion	Exemplary	Proficient	Emerging	Incomplete
Grammar, Spelling, and Punctuation	Your work shows careful proofreading with virtually no errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation, making your ideas clear and easy to understand.	Your work contains a few minor errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation, but these do not significantly distract from understanding your ideas.	Your work contains several noticeable errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation that sometimes make it difficult to understand your ideas.	Your work contains frequent and significant errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation that make it hard to understand your ideas.
Demonstrates Understanding of the Nonfiction Novel	Your 20 double-entry journals demonstrate a thorough engagement with the nonfiction text, capturing key information, asking thoughtful questions, and making insightful connections and reflections throughout the reading.	Your 20 double-entry journals show a good engagement with the nonfiction text, recording important information and including some questions or reflections.	Your double-entry journals are incomplete (fewer than 20) or show a superficial engagement with the nonfiction text, with limited details, questions, or reflections.	Your double-entry journals are significantly incomplete or show little to no engagement with the nonfiction text.
Use of Textual Evidence	For the nonfiction novel, your double-entry journals consistently include specific and relevant details directly from the text.	For the nonfiction novel, your double-entry journals generally include details from the text.	For the nonfiction novel, your double-entry journals include some details from the text, but they may be vague or infrequent.	For the nonfiction novel, your double-entry journals show little to no evidence of using the text.