

Summer Reading!

Hello 8th grader!

We are excited to see you in September, and we hope you'll have a great summer. We want to share our summer reading assignment with you now so that you can manage your time accordingly.

In the 8th grade, we do a lot of reading and have many in-depth discussions. One unit we have is a "Memoir Unit" in which you will write your own memoir. A memoir is a historical account (or biography) written from personal knowledge of an important moment or situation in the person's life.

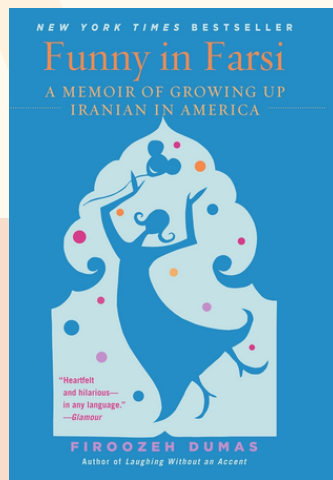
During this summer, we ask that you read one (or more!) of the following memoirs. Click on the title below to buy the book or read a description of the story.

**Prejudice, poetry,
family, self-discovery**



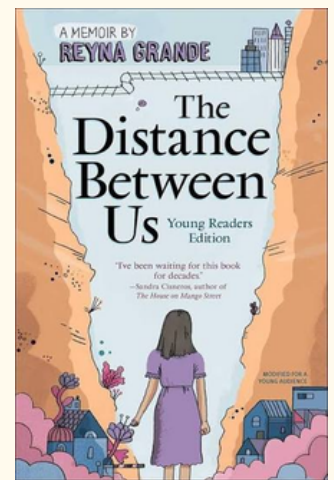
Brown Girl Dreaming
by Jacqueline Woodson

**Immigration, culture,
identity, prejudice**



Funny in Farsi
by Firoozeh Dumas

**Poverty, immigration,
resilience, separation**



The Distance Between Us
by Jacqueline Woodson

You may purchase your selection if you want to write inside your book, or you may borrow one from the public library and use Post-It notes to take notes. You may read more than one if you want.

8TH GRADE

continued



Assignment/task: While reading the memoir, take notes (annotate) on how the author shares their significant personal moments. We want to see what note-taking strategies you use while reading. Your notes should be in a Google document before school begins. [Download a sample template to use](#). Or, you can create a document of notes however you want.

Good annotations include:

1. Questions about what is taking place (plot, character development, etc.)
2. Feelings that have been stirring while you read
3. Confusing details
4. Inferences (conclusions)
5. Challenging words (vocabulary)

September: During the first week of school, you will be asked to share your notes/annotations document with your English teacher