Reading Assignment
English 8

As you read your selection from the annotated bibliography, take notes that will help you to complete this plot-structure diagram. Include as many details as possible for the following topics:

- Characters
- Setting
- Conflict
- Resolution
- Turning Point
- Rising Action
- Falling Action
- Theme

*Important*
This plot-structure diagram is not your project. Your teacher will ask you to use this organizer in September to complete an assigned project. That project will earn you credit for the summer reading.

Teachers will collect the completed projects the week of September 19, 2011.

For additional information, please contact Principal Amanda Caldwell at 453-1283 or at acaldwell@liverpool.k12.ny.us

Dear Parents and students,

Research has shown that the summer months out of school can cause a decline in student skills in both reading and math. To combat this loss, we require students entering grades 7-12 to read one novel from a grade-level specific list of choices.

Please review the enclosed choices together, select a novel of interest to the student, and complete the note-taking activity outlined herein. Please note that this activity is not the summer reading project. Students will be given directions for completing the project when they return to school in September.

Enjoy your summer!
Grade 8: Summer Reading with Student Choice and Voice

This annotated bibliography provides information about a variety of books from many literary genres to help guide your selection. You are required to select from this list. Many of these books are of high interest to students at typical reading levels. Other selections may be written at a more challenging reading level or contain more mature content. You will take notes about your reading on a graphic organizer (see the model on the back side). Parental review of this list or of a student’s choice is encouraged in order to assist students in making personally challenging and satisfying choices.

Beals, Melba P. Warriors Don’t Cry. Melba was one of nine black teenagers chosen to integrate Little Rock, Arkansas’ Central High School in 1957. Melba and her friends helped to transform and shape the Civil Rights Movement. (1000L)

Christie, Agatha. And Then There Were None. Ten strangers mysteriously gather together on an isolated island. They share the darkest secrets of their pasts. Then, one by one, they die. (570L)

Crutcher, Chris. Ironman. The rage Bo feels towards his father gives him the energy as a triathlete to press his body to the limit, but it also translates into angry outbursts toward his teachers. Now Bo has been assigned to Anger Management sessions with the school “truants.” (980L)

Dashner, James. The Maze Runner. When Thomas wakes up, the only thing he can remember is his first name. He finds himself surrounded by kids who welcome him to the Glade, a large stone expanse. Thomas might be more important than he could ever guess. If only he could unlock the dark secrets buried within his mind. (770L)

Draper, Sharon Mills. Copper Sun. Fifteen-year-old Amari is kidnapped from her African village in 1738. The horrors of watching her family murdered and the humiliations she endures, she never thought possible. (820L)

Hesse, Karen. Out of the Dust. A terrible accident has transformed Billie Jo's life. Her mother is gone. Her father is distant. To make matters worse, the dust storms are devastating. And the one thing that might help her feel better seems impossible. (NP)

Lupica, Mike. The Big Field. When 14-year-old baseball player Hutch feels threatened by the arrival of a new teammate, he tries to work through his insecurities about both Darryl and his remote and silent father. (970L)

Myers, Walter Dean. The Greatest: Muhammad Ali. This is the story of Muhammad Ali’s going from a daring young boxer to a man at war with a disease. (1030L)

Myers, Walter Dean. Scorpions. After taking on the leadership of a Harlem gang, the Scorpions, Jamal finds that his enemies treat him with respect when he acquires a gun--until a tragedy occurs. (610L)

Pike, Aprilynne. Wings. When a flower blooms in the middle of her back, Laurel discovers she is a faerie and was placed with human parents as a child. As she learns about the dangers of the faerie realm, she struggles to find her place in both worlds. (690L)

Westerfeld, Scott. Uglies. In Tally's world, your sixteenth birthday brings an operation that turns you from a repellent “ugly” into a stunningly attractive “pretty” and catapults you into a high-tech paradise where your only job is to have a really great time. (770L)

Wyen, Suzanne. Bar Code Tattoo. Individuality vs. conformity. Freedom vs. control. The barcode tattoo. Everybody’s getting it. It will make your life easier, so they say. For Kayla, this one choice changes everything. (720L)

*Lexile-to-Grade Correspondence*

A lexile rating is included at the end of each entry. The Lexile® Framework for Reading is intended to match each reader with a text at whatever level he/she is reading. There is no direct correspondence between a specific lexile measure and a specific grade level. Within any classroom or grade, there is a range of readers. As a guide, a typical reader measure for a 7th grade student is 735L-1065L. A typical reader measure for an 8th grade student is 805L-1100L. Lexile ratings are based on prose analysis. A rating of NP indicates that more than half of a book is comprised of non-standard prose. [www.lexile.com](http://www.lexile.com)