

Fredericksburg Academy
English 8
Summer Assignment 2018

Our summer reading philosophy at FA is simple: people who read continuously become better readers and writers. With this in mind, English 8 students will read a book in common and a book of their choice.

The Required Book:

Students must read and annotate *The Giver* by Lois Lowry. There is no essay assignment but students must be prepared to discuss and work with this text the first day of school.

Annotations will be checked for an effort grade. To annotate effectively, students should:

- Write two-three sentences at the end of each chapter briefly describing the events of the chapter;
- Highlight two-four passages per chapter which help deepen an understanding of the characters, conflict, or theme of the text and make a note in the margin of why the passage was highlighted.

The Choice Book:

Read a book of your choice that is at least 125 pages; this book *may not* be required for another class. Write a reflection for this book. This essay should be a reaction to and interpretation of the book with minimal plot summary. This assignment will be graded for effort and will be your first written assignment of the first semester.

If you wish to read an additional choice book and write an additional book reflection you may earn extra points.

Summer Reading Reflection Rubric

10/10—Essay is a critical, well-written, well-edited, well-organized reaction to the choice book with strong, well-described examples from the text but minimal plot synopsis.

9/10—Essay is a critical, edited, and organized reaction to the choice book with significant amounts of plot synopsis and/or needs stronger, more specific examples.

8/10—Essay is a reaction to the choice book with examples from the text but also has significant amounts of plot synopsis *or* is in need of editing.

7/10—Essay is a reaction to the choice book with examples from the text but also has significant amounts of plot synopsis *and* is in need of editing.

6/10—Essay is all plot synopsis.

5/10—Essay is mostly plot synopsis and requires significant editing.

4-0/10—Incomplete or incoherent.