

Ninth Grade Summer Reading Assignment

Directions

The first 9th grade unit is A World of Mystery. Your summer reading task is to choose two age appropriate mysteries. If you are struggling to find books, we have provided a list of suggestions for you located at the end of the packet. You are not required to choose either book from the list, but you may if you like. If you choose books off the list, they must be of the mystery genre and you must have your teacher's approval. With your teacher, complete the approval form on the back of this page. Hold on to the approval form to turn into your 9th grade English teacher in September.

For each book, complete a chart like the one below.

1. List **(8)** major events in the book and provide a short description of the event.
2. List the protagonist and **(5)** other major characters in the book. For each other major character, describe the protagonist's thoughts and feelings towards that character. Lastly, choose a quote that describes the protagonist's opinion of that character, and explain the quote including its meaning and significance.
3. Be prepared to turn in your charts to your 9th Grade English teacher in September.
4. You will take a written assessment in the beginning of the year to demonstrate your reading comprehension and critical thinking skills. You will be allowed to use your notes on this assignment. The assessment will measure the New Jersey State Learning Standards:
W.9/10. 3, RL 9/10.1 and RL 9/10.3

Where can I get my summer reading books? Because the potential student choice list is extensive, it depends on the title as to where you might find it. Some suggestions are:

- At bookstores (i.e. Barnes and Noble)
- Amazon.com has most books at affordable prices
- At the Franklin Township Public Library
- Copies of older titles are sometimes available online for free

Book Approval Form
(Please keep in mind your book must fall under the genre of Mystery)

Student Name_____

Current Grade_____

Book Title_____

Author_____

Teacher Signature_____

Book Title_____

Author_____

Teacher Signature_____

Student: Remember to keep this sheet to turn in to your teacher in September.

Note: If for any reason you do not read the book approved on this form, you can go back and choose a book from the list or get a new book approved over the summer by the Director of Language Arts, Dr. Karen Schubert-Ramirez, at the board office. 732-873-2400 ext. 274; kschubert-ramirez@franklinboe.org

Your name _____

Book title _____ Book Author _____

Major Events and Short Description	
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	

Name of the protagonist in the book and a short description of that character:		
Other Major Characters	Protagonist's Thoughts/Feelings Towards the Character	Quote that describes the protagonist's opinion of that character (cite pg #). Explain the quote's meaning and significance
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

Your name _____

Book title _____ Book Author _____

Major Events and Short Description	
1.	
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2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

Book Title	Author	Synopsis
<i>Shelter/ Mickey Bolitar Series</i>	Harlan Coben	Mickey Bolitar's year can't get much worse. After witnessing his father's death and sending his mom to rehab, he's forced to live with his estranged uncle Myron and switch high schools. A new school comes with new friends and new enemies, and lucky for Mickey, it also comes with a great new girlfriend, Ashley. For a while, it seems like Mickey's train-wreck of a life is finally improving - until Ashley vanishes without a trace. Unwilling to let another person walk out of his life, Mickey follows Ashley's trail into a seedy underworld that reveals that this seemingly sweet, shy girl isn't who she claimed to be. And neither was Mickey's father. Soon, Mickey learns about a conspiracy so shocking that it makes high school drama seem like a luxury - and leaves him questioning everything about the life he thought he knew.
<i>Confessions of a Murder Suspect /Confessions Series</i>	James Patterson	James Patterson returns to the genre that made him famous with a thrilling teen detective series about the mysterious and magnificently wealthy Angel family . . . and the dark secrets they're keeping from one another. On the night Malcolm and Maud Angel are murdered, Tandy Angel knows just three things: 1) She was the last person to see her parents alive. 2) The police have no suspects besides Tandy and her three siblings. 3) She can't trust anyone--maybe not even herself. Having grown up under Malcolm and Maud's intense perfectionist demands, no child comes away undamaged. Tandy decides that she will have to clear the family name, but digging deeper into her powerful parents' affairs is a dangerous-and revealing-game. Who knows what the Angels are truly capable of?
<i>Pretty Little Liars/Pretty Little Liars Series</i>	Sara Shepard	In ultra-trendy Rosewood, Pennsylvania, four beautiful girls are hiding very ugly secrets. High school juniors Spencer, Hanna, Aria, and Emily have grown apart since their best friend Alison DiLaurentis went missing three years ago. But now someone is sending them anonymous notes, threatening to reveal their darkest secrets. There's only one person who knows that much about them, but Ali's gone . . . isn't she?
<i>I Hunt Killers/Jasper Dent Series</i>	Barry Lyga	<i>It was a beautiful day. It was a beautiful field. Except for the body.</i> Jazz is a likable teenager. A charmer, some might say. But he's also the son of the world's most infamous serial killer, and for Dear Old Dad, "Take Your Son to Work Day" was year-round. Jazz has witnessed crime scenes the way cops wish they could--from the criminal's point of view. And now, even though Dad has been in jail for years, bodies are piling up in the sleepy town of Lobo's Nod. Again. In an effort to prove murder doesn't run in the family, Jazz joins the police in the hunt for this new serial killer. But Jazz has a secret--could he be more like his father than anyone knows?
<i>The Naturals/ The Naturals Series</i>	Jennifer Lynn Barnes	Seventeen-year-old Cassie is a natural at reading people. Piecing together the tiniest details, she can tell you who you are and what you want. But, it's not a skill that she's ever taken seriously. That is, until the FBI come knocking: they've begun a classified program that uses exceptional teenagers to crack infamous cold cases, and they need Cassie. What Cassie doesn't realize is that there's more at risk than a few unsolved homicides—especially when she's sent to live with a group of teens whose gifts are as unusual as her own. Soon, it becomes clear that no one in the Naturals program is what they seem. And when a new killer strikes, danger looms close. Caught in a lethal game of cat and mouse with a killer, the Naturals are going to have to use all of their gifts just to survive.

<i>Deadly Cool/ Deadly Cool Series</i>	Gemma Halliday	First I find out that my boyfriend is cheating on me. Then he's pegged as the #1 suspect in a murder. And now he's depending on me to clear his name. <i>Seriously?</i> As much as I wouldn't mind watching him squirm, I know that he's innocent. So I'm brushing off my previously untapped detective skills and getting down to business. But I keep tripping over dead bodies and I'm still no closer to figuring out who did it. And what's worse: all signs seem to point to me as the killer's next victim. I really need to pick a better boyfriend next time.
<i>Paper Towns</i>	John Green	Who is the real Margo? Quentin Jacobsen has spent a lifetime loving the magnificently adventurous Margo Roth Spiegelman from afar. So when she cracks open a window and climbs into his life—dressed like a ninja and summoning him for an ingenious campaign of revenge—he follows. After their all-nighter ends, and a new day breaks, Q arrives at school to discover that Margo, always an enigma, has now become a mystery. But Q soon learns that there are clues—and they're for him. Urged down a disconnected path, the closer he gets, the less Q sees the girl he thought he knew...
<i>Butterfly Clues</i>	Kate Ellison	Penelope (Lo) Marin has always loved to collect beautiful things. Her dad's consulting job means she's grown up moving from one rundown city to the next, and she's learned to cope by collecting (sometimes even stealing) quirky trinkets and souvenirs in each new place--possessions that allow her to feel at least some semblance of home. But in the year since her brother Oren's death, Lo's hoarding has blossomed into a full-blown, potentially dangerous obsession. She discovers a beautiful, antique butterfly pendant during a routine scour at a weekend flea market, and recognizes it as having been stolen from the home of a recently murdered girl known only as "Sapphire"--a girl just a few years older than Lo. As usual when Lo begins to obsess over something, she can't get the murder out of her mind. As she attempts to piece together the mysterious "butterfly clues," with the unlikely help of a street artist named Flynt, Lo quickly finds herself caught up in a seedy, violent underworld much closer to home than she ever imagined--a world, she'll ultimately discover, that could hold the key to her brother's tragic death.
<i>A Study In Charlotte</i>	Brittany Cavallaro	The first book in a witty, suspenseful new trilogy about a brilliant new crime-solving duo: the teen descendants of Sherlock Holmes and John Watson. Jamie Watson has always been intrigued by Charlotte Holmes; after all, their great-great-great-grandfathers are one of the most infamous pairs in history. But the Holmes family has always been odd, and Charlotte is no exception. She's inherited Sherlock's volatility and some of his vices—and when Jamie and Charlotte end up at the same Connecticut boarding school, Charlotte makes it clear she's not looking for friends. But when a student they both have a history with dies under suspicious circumstances, ripped straight from the most terrifying of the Sherlock Holmes stories, Jamie can no longer afford to keep his distance. Danger is mounting and nowhere is safe—and the only people they can trust are each other.
<i>The Unbecoming of Mara Dyer</i>	Michelle Hodkin	Mara Dyer believes life can't get any stranger than waking up in a hospital with no memory of how she got there. It can. She believes there must be more to the accident she can't remember that killed her friends and left her strangely unharmed. There is. She doesn't believe that after everything she's been through, she can fall in love. She's wrong.

