



## Texas City ISD 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Pre-AP Reading and Writing Summer Reading Assignment 2017

Dear Students and Parents:

Students will read two books from the 2017 Texas Lone Star Reading List, and complete an essay for one book and a trailer for the other book. The final copy of the essay and the trailer will be due on the Friday of the third week of school, September 8, 2017.

**Essay Requirements:** (Essays should be one to two pages in length.)

Include the following in your essay:

- a. Describe how the author used the setting to create meaning.
- b. Describe how the author used the characters to create meaning.
- c. Describe the central conflict of the book and how the author uses it to create meaning.
- d. Include examples (quote and/or paraphrase from the book) for items a-c.
- e. Include an explanation of the meaning represented by each selected example.

\*Students are required to turn in planning, rough draft, etc. with the final copy of their essay.

**Please DO NOT write a BOOK REPORT or SUMMARY of the book. Follow the preceding directions.**

Students will also select and read another novel from the current Texas Lone Star Reading List (<http://www.txla.org/sites/tla/files/groups/YART/docs/LoneStar/docs/2017LoneList.pdf>), and complete a trailer.

**Trailer Requirements:**

1. Create a trailer (video/power point presentation) to submit to the library for the Anne Dube award. Trailers **MUST** include the author's name, a picture of the book, 5-10 slides/scenes, and a works cited page.
2. Trailers should contain creative elements. The following are suggestions (not required): teasers that do not reveal the end of the book, character interview simulations, author biographical information and its effect on the story, and/or any other creative elements to persuade others to read the book.

If you have questions, please contact the following teachers:

Blocker Middle School – Ms. Ledbetter: [rledbetter@tcisd.org](mailto:rledbetter@tcisd.org)

La Marque Middle School – Ms. Dummar: [hdummar@tcisd.org](mailto:hdummar@tcisd.org)

**2017 Middle School Summer Reading Assignment Signature Page**

Please return this signature page to your teacher for record keeping purposes.

I received the 2017 TCISD Middle School Summer Reading Assignment information, and I understand how to complete the assignment.

**Signature**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Information**

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Scoring Rubric for Summer Reading Essay

Score	Focus and Coherence	Organization	Development of Ideas	Voice	Conventions
<p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>Writing is very strong</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Focused throughout</li> <li>2. Ideas clearly connected to controlling idea</li> <li>3. Meaningful introduction and conclusion</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Organizational pattern effective for purpose and audience</li> <li>2. Smooth flow</li> <li>3. Uses meaningful Transitions</li> </ol> <p>Note: Students may wish to generate a body paragraph for setting, second body paragraph for character, and third body paragraph for conflict. Students may use another organizational pattern as long as it's appropriate for the essay.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Supports ideas thoroughly with specific examples from the book.</li> <li>2. Provides examples for setting, character, and conflict. Examples are well selected and developed. Note: students will only be able to develop approximately 3-6 examples in all.</li> <li>2. Deep or creative thinking adds to the quality of the writing</li> </ol> <p>Note: Specific examples are selected and developed. The student does not attempt to give too many examples. All examples are linked to the controlling idea.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Engaging</li> <li>2. Authentic; original</li> <li>3. Expresses personality or unique point of view</li> </ol>	<p>Strong command of grammar, sentence structure, mechanics and spelling</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>3</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Writing is strong in most ways</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. For the most part, focused</li> <li>2. Most ideas clearly connected to controlling idea</li> <li>3. Introduction and conclusion add some depth</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Organizational pattern mostly effective for purpose and audience</li> <li>2. Smooth flow</li> <li>3. Meaningful transitions</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Specific examples support some ideas, others need more development</li> <li>2. Development may be thoughtful ,but not creative</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mostly engaging and original</li> <li>2. Sounds authentic and original</li> <li>3. Expresses The writer's unique point of view</li> </ol>	<p>Minor errors in grammar, sentence structure, mechanics and spelling.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Writing is strong in few ways</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Somewhat focused</li> <li>2. Ideas shift suddenly or do not add to the writing</li> <li>3. Introduction and conclusion do not add depth.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Organizational pattern may not suit purpose and audience</li> <li>2. Smooth flow</li> <li>3. Meaningful transitions</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support may be general or just a listing of examples.</li> <li>2. Message is unclear due to missing information</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Partly engaging</li> <li>2. Sounds authentic and original in few places</li> <li>3. Does not express a unique point of view</li> </ol>	<p>Several errors in grammar, sentence structure, mechanics and spelling interfere with reader understanding</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>1</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Writing is weak</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Resubmission of the assignment is required.</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lacks focus</li> <li>2. Information is not connected to controlling idea</li> <li>3. Missing an introduction and/or conclusion</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No clear pattern of organization</li> <li>2. No logical flow of ideas</li> <li>3. No or poor use of transitions (Wordiness/repetition)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. General/ unclear or no support of ideas</li> <li>2. Unclear message</li> <li>3. Missing important information</li> </ol> <p><b>Essay is written like a book report. The book is summarized.</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Not engaging</li> <li>2. Does not sound authentic and original</li> <li>3. Does not express a unique point of view</li> </ol>	<p>Major errors in grammar, sentence structure, mechanics and spelling interfere with reader understanding</p>

# 2017 ANNOTATED TEXAS LONE STAR READING LIST



Brody, Jessica. **A Week of Mondays.** Farrar, Straus, Giroux, 2016. ISBN: 9780374382704

It was the worst Monday ever--school pictures were terrible, she bombed her election speech and softball tryouts, and her rocker boyfriend Tristan broke up with her. Ellie just wishes there was a chance for a do-over. Little does she know that she'll get the do-over...and she'll have to keep on repeating that awful Monday until she gets it right.

Also try these:

*P.S. I Like You* by Kasie West

*The Breakup Bible* by Melissa Kantor

*The Statistical Probability of Falling in Love* by Jennifer E. Smith

Carter, Aimee. **Simon Thorn and the Wolf's Den.** Bloomsbury, 2016. ISBN: 9781619637047

Simon Thorn's life is less than typical: he's bullied at school; he lives with his uncle who never explains anything about their family; he can talk to animals; and, he rarely sees his mother. When his mother is kidnapped during a short visit and animals keep giving him advice or attacking him, Simon learns that his family are all Animalgams--people who can shift into an animal. There's a war on, and Simon is now in the middle of a power struggle for survival.

Also try these:

*Michael Vey* series by Richard Paul Evans

*The Apothecary* by Maile Meloy

*Ferals* by Jacob Grey

Collier, Peter. **Choosing Courage: Inspiring True Stories of What It Means to Be a Hero.** Artisan, 2016. ISBN: 9781579657055

What turns an ordinary person into a hero? What happens in the blink of an eye on a battlefield (or in any dangerous situation) to bring out true courage? The men and women who have been recognized by the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation know the answers to these questions deep in their hearts.

Also try these:

*The Boys Who Challenged Hitler* by Phillip Hoose

*The Nazi Hunters* by Neal Bascomb

*The Warrior's Heart* by Eric Greitens

Davies, Linda. **Longbow Girl.** Scholastic, 2016. ISBN: 9780545853453

Merry comes from a long line of longbow men. Her intelligence and fitness give her courage to fulfill a lost legend and save her family's land from the de Courcys who want their land back. It'll take a trip to the past with her best friend to save the present.

Also try these:

*Into the Dim* by Janet B. Taylor

*Treasure of Maria Mamoun* by Michelle Chalfoun

*All Our Yesterdays* by Cristin Terrill

Eagar, Lindsay. **Hour of the Bees**. Candlewick Press, 2016. ISBN: 9780763679224

Carol and her family are forced to spend the summer with a grandfather they don't know when his ailing dementia becomes worse. Carol is forced to acknowledge her roots and in the process discovers more about who she is and what kind of person she wants to become.

Also try these:

*Summer of the Mariposas* by Guadalupe Garcia McCall

*Key to Extraordinary* by Natalie Lloyd

*The Thing about Jellyfish* by Ali Benjamin

Elliott, Kate. **Court of Fives**. Little, Brown, 2015. ISBN: 9780316364195

Jessamy lives in a world between: not a Commoner, not a Patron--kept apart from both by society's disapproval. She lives to compete, but even then, she can only take part in the complex Court of Fives games if she hides her identity: her father would kill her if he knew. But her skill brings her to the notice of both handsome Lord Kalliarkos and his evil-doing uncle Lord Gargaron, and sets in motion a chain of events that separates her parents and nearly destroys her family. The only way she can save them now is by winning the next games...but if she does, Kal may never look at her the same way again.

Also try these:

*Ember in the Ashes* by Sabaa Tahir

*The Demon King* by Cinda Williams Chima

*The Reader (Sea of Ink & Gold)* by Traci Chee

Gangsei, Jan. **Zero Day**. Disney-Hyperion, 2016. ISBN: 9781484722268

Addie was kidnapped 8 years ago, long before her father was President. When she "escapes" her captors, everyone is overjoyed. But something happened to Addie during those 8 years, and it's about to change the fate of the United States forever.

Also try these:

*The Cipher* by John Ford

*Danny Watts* series by Andy McNabb

*All Fall Down* by Ally Carter

Gratz, Alan. **Code of Honor**. Scholastic, 2015. ISBN: 9780545695190

Kamran's brother Darius is accused of being of a terrorist, and Kamran's family is detained by Homeland Security and questioned over and over. Kamran refuses to believe his brother is a traitor--and he thinks he can prove it by helping the authorities decode clues that Darius has been leaving in his video rants against the US. If Kamran's right, there's something big--and bad--about to come down right here in the US. His problem is getting anyone to believe the brother of a terrorist.

Also try these:

*Red Queen* by Victoria Aveyard

*Catch You Later, Traitor* by Avi

*The Tyrant's Daughter* by J.C. Carleson

Graudin, Ryan. **Wolf By Wolf**. Little, Brown, 2015. ISBN: 9780316405126

Yael is a Nazi death camp survivor in an alternative history where Hitler was successful in conquering Europe. She was experimented on by the Angel of Death and uses her shapeshifting powers to try and win a motorcycle race to assassinate Hitler.

Also try these:

*Rebel of the Sands* by Alwin Hamilton

*Salt to the Sea* by Ruta Sepetys

*Maggot Moon* by Sally Gardner

Harrington, Karen. **Mayday**. Little, Brown, 2016. ISBN: 9780316298018

Wayne is a middle schooler that has survived a plane crash and lost his voice in the accident. Fine except he needs his voice in a lot of ways to navigate school, relationships, and family.

Also try these:

*The Courage Test* by James Preller

*Connect the Stars* by Marisa De Los Santos

*Lucky Strikes* by Louis Bayard

Henry, April. **The Girl I Used to Be**. Henry, Holt, 2016. ISBN: 9781627793322

When Ariel Benson was three years old, her parents were murdered before her eyes. She was the only witness. Now 17, and using her adopted name of Olivia Reinhart, she returns to the tiny town where the gruesome events took place, determined to find out who did it. Little does she expect that the killer is still there, waiting to spring into action if the wrong person every shows up—specifically, the girl Olivia used to be.

Also try these:

*The Body Finder* by Kimberly Derting

*They Never Came Back* by Caroline Cooney

*The Body in the Woods* by April Henry

Jobling, Curtis. **Max Helsing and the Thirteenth Curse**. Viking, 2015. ISBN: 9780451474797

Max Helsing is the last in the line of (Van) Helsing, famed monster hunters. He feels like he's got things down pretty well...but what Max doesn't realize is that a long-dormant curse is about to fall on the 13th descendant of Liesbeth Van Helsing on his/her 13th birthday. It's the 13th Curse--and it just so happens that Max is the 13th descendant. Oh well. How bad could it be? Max is about to find out.

Also try these:

*Max Helsing and the Beast of Bone Creek* by Curtis Jobling

*Alex Van Helsing* series by Jason Henderson

*Alfred Kropp* series by Rick Yancey

Khoury, Jessica. **The Forbidden Wish**. Penguin, 2016. ISBN: 9781595147677

A ring tells a teen boy to seek; he seeks and finds a lamp and, subsequently, a jinni. Together, they plan to avenge his parents' deaths.

Also try these:

*The Tiger's Curse* by Colleen Houck

*Defy* series by Sarah B. Larson

*Atlantia* by Ally Condie

Khoury, Jessica. **Kalahari**. Penguin, 2015. ISBN: 9781595147653

Six teens, stranded in the Kalahari desert, must fight to stay alive, to avoid the poachers who killed Sarah's Bushman friend Theo, and stay clear of the freakish silver lion that seems to be stalking them. But even as they draw closer to a stunning answer to their questions, they're just as far as ever from being rescued. The secrets of the evil Corpus company may just die with them.

Also try these:

*Origin* by Jessica Khoury

*Dark Energy* by Robison Wells

*Eve & Adam* by Michael Grant

Liss, David. **Randoms**. Simon & Schuster, 2015. ISBN: 9781481417792

Intelligent alien life does exist and they've contacted the Earth and invited us to apply to join their Confederation of Planets. Our application? Send three of the world's best students and one random kid to their home planet to compete.

Also try these:

*Rebels* by David Liss

*The Improbable Theory of Ana & Zak* by Brian Katcher

*The Lab* by Jack Heath

Long, Susan Hill. **The Magic Mirror: Concerning a Lonely Princess, a Foundling Girl, a Scheming King and a Pickpocket Squirrel**. Penguin Random House, 2016. ISBN: 9780553511345

Maggie is crippled and lives with a woman who agreed to take her in when she was abandoned. Maggie's content until she comes into possession of a magical mirror, which sends her on a quest to solve the mystery of her identity. Maggie's adventurous journey brings an eclectic group of people--even a squirrel--together as they fight evil in order to make the kingdom a safer place.

Also try these:

*Princess Academy* by Shannon Hale

*Girl Who Drank the Moon* Kelly Barnhill

*Monstrous* by MarcyKate Connolly

Magoon, Kekla. **Shadows of Sherwood**. Bloomsbury, 2015. ISBN: 9781619636347

When the government kidnaps her parents, Robyn Loxley takes to the streets, assembling a group of misfit teens to steal from the rich and give to the poor, and otherwise bring justice to Nott City. A snappy mashup of the Robin Hood myth.

Also try these:

*Tesla's Attic* by Neal Shusterman

*Zeroes* by Scott Westerfeld

*Will in Scarlet* by Matthew Cody

Reynolds, Jason. **Ghost**. Simon & Schuster, 2016. ISBN: 9781481450157

Castle, or "Ghost" is a 7th grader who runs. He was born knowing how to and always has. A coach for the elite track team, The Defenders, sees that Ghost has raw talent and gets him to join the team. However, to stay on the team he has to stay out of trouble.

Also try these:

*Runner* by Carl Deuker

*Darius & Twig* by Walter Dean Myers

*Booked* by Kwame Alexander

Sands, Kevin. **The Blackthorn Key**. Aladdin, 2015. ISBN: 9781481446518

Someone is murdering apothecaries in 1660 London, and that gives Christopher Rowe plenty to worry about--he's Master Blackthorn's apprentice, and if someone's planning to kill the Master, they might just want to kill the apprentice as well. When the horrifying happens, Christopher is forced out onto the street, one step ahead of the man with the knife. Now he has to use his wits--and the knowledge of potions and codes he learned from the Master--to outsmart the killers and clear his own name. He's just a kid, so he'd better think fast...and stay at least two steps ahead of the shadowy killers who want him dead too.

Also try these:

*Mark of the Plague* by Kevin Sands

*Mark of the Thief* by Jennifer Nielsen

*Serafina and the Black Cloak* by Robert Beatty



Welch, Jenna Evans. **Love and Gelato**. Simon & Schuster, 2016. ISBN: 9781481432542

When Lina's mother is diagnosed with inoperable cancer, she wants Lina to live with Howard in Italy at her death. Lina, knowing nothing about her father, finds herself in Italy uncovering the mystery of her mother's past. Lina experiences Florence and all that living in Italy entails—romance, mystery, and a new culture.

Also try these:

*A Blind Spot for Boys* by Justina Chen

*This is My Brain on Boys* by Sarah Strohmeyer

*Carpe Diem* by Autumn Cornwell

The Texas Lone Star list is a recommended reading list developed by public and school librarians from the Young Adult Round Table. The purpose of the list is to encourage students in grades 6, 7, or 8 to explore a variety of current books. The Lone Star list is intended for recreational reading, not to support a specific curriculum. Due to the diversity of this age range, Texas librarians should purchase titles on this list according to their individual collection policies. The annotated 2017 Lone Star Reading List, past Lone Star Reading selections, and additional resources are available at: <http://www.txla.org/groups/lone-star>.