

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade English Summer Reading List

### Overview of Summer Reading:

Our theme for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade English will be “Why We Fight”. The texts chosen for summer reading are meant to connect to that theme. The assignments you will complete for both of the English texts will have that theme as their guiding force.

As you read over the summer, I will be re-reading with you, and I will post specific things I want you to notice or consider about each piece to a blog/discussion group I will maintain. The web address is:

<https://mrscookfwafasummerreading.blogspot.com/>

All students taking 8<sup>th</sup> Grade English in the fall of 2018 must read the following pieces this summer:

- *My Brother Sam is Dead* by James Lincoln Collier and Christopher Collier (US History Selection)
- *We Will Not Be Silent: The White Rose Student Resistance Movement That Defied Adolf Hitler* by Russell Freeman
- Choose ONE from the following list:
  - *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley
  - *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson
  - *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros
  - *The Outsiders* by S. E. Hinton

You will submit all three of your summer reading reports on turnitin.com. If you were a 7<sup>th</sup> grader at FWFA last year, you should already have an account. If you can't get into your account, you will have to set up a new one with a different email address. ALL CLASSES are listed under Mrs. Lawrence's name. Do not freak out about this--You are in the right place.

If you need to set up an account, simply:

1. Go to turnitin.com
2. Follow the instructions for setting up an account as a new user
3. Use the information below in your registration

Class Name: FWFA23

Enrollment password: FWFA23

Class ID 15470797

Summer 2018 8<sup>th</sup> Grade *My Brother Sam is Dead* **AND CHOICE BOOK** Report Form

Your answers must be in complete sentences, and you should have diligently corrected any spelling, mechanical, and structural errors. Make your comments as long as you need, but be sure to be thorough, as longer, more thoughtful answers will be given higher marks than shorter answers that lack effort. Length suggestions and a rubric have been provided for you.

**Take care to use your own words. Plagiarized reports will receive zeroes.** You must submit your TYPED responses to turnitin.com not later than 11:59 PM on August 19, 2018. This is not a “research” paper; any quotes will be from the novel and will be clearly marked by quotation marks.

Complete each section by typing your answers on a separate WORD document. DO NOT re-type the questions.

Name:

Date:

Book Title:

Author:

1. Briefly summarize the elements of fiction. You must include the following:
  - a. Setting: Describe the time/place/historical context of the story. How is the setting alike/different from our own time/place/historical context? How does the setting of the story impact the theme “Why We Fight”? (3-4 sentences)
  - b. Characters: Identify and describe the personality of the main characters. Do not describe them physically – I don’t care if they have blonde hair. For each, explain whether or not they change in the course of the story—and if they do change, how? Explain what each character you identified is fighting for in the novel. (2-3 sentences per character)
  - c. Conflict: What is the conflict (problem) driving the plot? Describe in detail, using at least two specific references to actual events in the text that show this conflict. Conflict is inherently about what the main character is fighting for or against. (2-3 sentences).
  - d. Climax: What is the climax (most important point of action) of the story? What changes after this point in the action? Describe in detail, using at least two specific references to actual events in the text. (2-3 sentences).
  - e. Resolution: How is the conflict resolved? Describe in detail, using at least one specific reference to an actual event in the text. What have the main characters won through their fight? (3-4 sentences)

2. Theme (universal meaning of the work/author's meaning): We have already identified one theme of this work: "Why We Fight". Explain how what the characters are fighting for in this novel is similar to something you fight for in your life. Be specific. (3-5 sentences)

Grading Rubric:

Below 70%	70-79%	80-89%	90% or higher
-grammar, spelling, mechanics, and/or sentence structure errors show weak control and impede comprehension. -more than one question is blank or incomplete. -directions are not followed on one or more questions. -answers are vague and do not include enough detail to show that the student read/understands the book -evidence of plagiarism	-grammar, spelling, mechanics, and/or sentence structure errors show limited control but do not impede comprehension. -no more than 1 question is blank or incomplete. -clear attempt to follow directions. -answers are vague/general but reference the text. -quotes and paraphrasing need editing but no evidence of plagiarism.	-grammar, spelling, mechanics, and sentence structure are mostly correct. -no questions are blank or incomplete. -answers make reference to the text and include detail. -clear attempt to follow directions. -quotes and paraphrasing support answers, with no evidence of plagiarism.	-grammar, spelling, mechanics, and sentence structure are strong with no pattern of error. -no questions are blank or incomplete. -clear attempt to follow directions. -answers include details from the text and relevant explanation. -quotes and paraphrasing effectively support answers, with no evidence of plagiarism.

Summer 2018 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Assignment for *We Will Not Be Silent*

Even though it is non-fiction, this book was also chosen to fit our theme of “Why We Fight”.

**On a separate document**, please **type** up your answers to the following questions related to this text. **DO NOT recopy the questions.**

1. After reading the text, explain in your own words why each of the following people chose to become a part of the resistance movement:
  - a. Hans Scholl
  - b. Sophie Scholl
  - c. Kurt Huber
  
2. There were fewer than ten White Rose leaflets published. Briefly summarize the main concerns about Nazi Germany addressed in these leaflets, as they are presented in *We Will Not Be Silent*.
  
3. The White Rose Memorial is pictured on p. 86 of the text. Based on your reading, explain why the artist chose this as a memorial.
  
4. Choose another of the photographs in the text and explain what that image has to do with the White Rose movement. DO NOT choose a photograph of one of the members of the White Rose movement. DO NOT merely explain how the photograph you chose is connected to World War II or Nazi Germany. Specifically explain how it is connected to the White Rose movement itself.
  
5. Explain how the members of the White Rose were able to operate undetected for so long. There are several things that helped them mentioned in the text. Discuss as many as you can find.
  
6. Explain how the message of the White Rose lived on, even after all of the original members had been executed or arrested. BE SPECIFIC.
  
7. Many of you read *Night* last year with Ms. Wo, so you already know some things about Nazi Germany and the Jewish Holocaust. Because this was such a monumental tragedy, we tend to view it as THE cause of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, but the members of the White Rose are not the last people who ever felt the need to defy their government and speak out against something that they felt was wrong. Think about what similar situations have occurred in the 21<sup>st</sup> century (since the year 2001).
  - a. Find an online news article describing such a situation
  - b. Give me the URL so that I can read it
  - c. Summarize the article
  - d. Explain in your own words why you think the situation in the article and the White Rose student resistance movement have in common. Be specific and thorough.