



The Calverton School

2026-2027 Summer Work

8th Grade English Summer Work

For your summer project this summer, you have been tasked with reading a book you would not normally read. Try to read the opposite of your preferred reading, so if you like to read fantasy/sci-fi books, read historical fiction instead. If you like romance/fantasy, look for a book about history or sci-fi. Stay away from “classics,” or books that others recommend. Go to a library or bookstore and find something on your own!

Book Instructions:

1. Borrow/purchase/find the book you would like to read this summer. Make sure it is a book you have not yet read.
2. Make sure the book is at least 200 pages long, and has full pages of writing. If you would like to do a manga, or comic book, or poetry, make sure it is 300 pages or longer (or read multiple volumes of the comic/manga to reach 300 pages).
3. As you read, make sure to, using post-it notes to mark the page, mark the five most important passages you find in the book. On each post-it, give a 1-2 sentence explanation of why you chose the passage. Make sure to bracket/highlight/underline the entire passage you have chosen.

Opening Essay Instructions:

1. After you have finished reading your book and located the five most important passages in the text, write a short essay responding to the prompt, “How did this book change your perspective about something in your life?”
2. You should hand write this essay and have at least 500 words (8th grade). This is 800 words for 10th grade, and 1000 words for 12th grade. This will be about 7-10 total pages, double-spaced, handwritten. (Front and back of 3-4 sheets of paper, depending on handwriting).

3. You will bring in your book for others to look at, with 5 passages marked, at the beginning of the school year.
4. Essays that are not handwritten will be rewritten. You will be asked to choose a new book and write a new essay.
5. Print this packet, staple it together, write your name on top, fill out the lines below, and submit it along with your book and essay.

Book Chosen: _____

Date I Started Reading: _____

Date I Finished Reading: _____