

The Brandeis School- Summer Reading for Grade 7 (entering September 2010) Two Books+ Required Note-Taking

- 1) **All students entering grade 7 will read** The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton. Puffin Books; ISBN: 014038572X
- 2) There is **required note-taking** on this book (see formats beginning page 3), and with these notes, you will be discussing and writing about the book on your return to school. The notes are due on the very first day of school. Please follow the directions carefully.
- 3) Students must choose **another book to read from the list below and complete notes** for the second book according to the formats beginning on page 3. Make sure your notes are legibly written or typed. (If there is another book you specifically want to read and write about, please consult with Mrs. Shaul **BEFORE** you leave for the summer)

Seventh Grade Summer Book List: Annotations

Avi's *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* follows 13-year-old Charlotte's 1832 trip across the Atlantic Ocean to America, where various dramatic adventures result in her being accused of murder.

In *Graceling*, by Kristin Cashore, Katsa was born with the ability to kill men with her bare hands, but can she find moral courage to stand up to evil rulers and fight for what is right?

In Eoin Colfer's *Airman*, Conor Broekhart spends his days dreaming of flying hot air balloons and inventing flying machines until murder and court intrigue send him to prison and labor in the diamond mines. (Colfer also wrote the well-known Artemis Fowl series)

In *Bud, Not Buddy* by Christopher Curtis, Buddy has many adventures while trying to track down the father he has never met, a well-known jazz musician.

Susan Bartoletti's *The Boy Who Dared* is based on research from her previous book, Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow. When 16-year-old Helmuth Hubner listens to the radio, he quickly discovers that Nazi Germany is lying to its people. But when he tries to expose the truth, he's tried for treason. Sentenced to death and waiting in a jail cell, Helmuth's story emerges in a series of flashbacks that show his growth from a naive child caught up in the "patriotism" of the times, to a sensitive and mature young man who thinks for himself.

In *Hank Greenberg: Hall-of-Fame Slugger* by Ira Berkow, the New York Times writer presents a powerful account of the life and career of Hank Greenberg, the first Jewish ballplayer to be elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

The Girl Who Could Fly by Victoria Forester tells the story of Piper, whose amazing ability gets her into a top secret school for kids with unusual abilities. However, the school is ready for a full-scale rebellion and Victoria has to decide which side to join.

In ***Igraine the Brave***, by Cornelia Funke, twelve-year-old Igraine longs to become a knight, but her family of magicians can't understand her dream. When life at the family castle is threatened by the dastardly Greedy Osmund, Igraine's skills in horsemanship and swordplay are pressed into action.

The Princess Academy by Shannon Hale is the story of Miri, a village girl who cannot stay home and get a job like the rest of her family, but must be sent to a special school where the wife of the prince is trained. Miri turns her search for Prince Charming into something totally unexpected!

In ***The Big Field*** by Mike Lupica, the focus is on one player's life in the run-up to the big game. Fourteen-year-old Hutch is the best player on his American Legion team, in the hot-shot position of shortstop — until Darryl Williams, an exceptionally talented player, arrives on the scene.

In ***Wake***, by Lisa McMann, Janie Hannigan can slip into other people's dreams. Do the dreamers know she is there? Can she help them overcome their nightmares? Or will they create nightmares for her?

The Candy Shop War- Brandon Mull

Welcome to the Sweet Tooth Ice Cream & Candy Shoppe, where the confections are a bit on the unusual side: Rock candy that makes you weightless, chocolate that makes you a master of disguise. Four friends meet the grandmotherly Mrs. White, owner of the Sweet Tooth, and soon learn about the unexpected side effects of her candies.

In ***The Knife of Never Letting Go***, Patrick Ness tells the story of Todd Hewitt, the last boy in a town of only men. And in this society, everyone can read everyone else's thoughts. Will this ability be helpful or harmful?

The Transall Saga is a science fiction adventure story and coming of age tale by Gary Paulsen, author of *Hatchet*. For Mark, what started as an ordinary day hike turns into a nightmare when he is mysteriously transported into a primitive world by a strange blue flash of lightning. First Mark is caught in a world he is not familiar with and then becomes a slave. Mark is forced to grow up before he can return to the life he once knew.

The Adoration of Jenna Fox by Mary Pearson introduces Jenna, who has just awakened from a year-long coma. As her memory begins to return, she has more questions than answers about the accident she was in, the person she used to be, and who she is now.

In ***Peak***, by Roland Smith, "14-year-old Peak Marcello's passion for mountain climbing is clearly in the genes, but when he is arrested for scaling tall buildings, his mom and step dad make a deal with the judge to ship him out of the country to live with her ex-husband. The teen's father, Josh, and his Himalayan expedition company are preparing teams to climb Mount Everest and suddenly Peak is faced with the possibility of becoming the youngest climber to reach the summit."

Yoni Netanyahu- Devra N. Speregen

Few rescue missions have succeeded like "Operation Thunderbolt," the Israeli plan led by Yoni Netanyahu on July 4, 1976, to rescue 105 hijacked Jewish passengers held captive in Uganda's Entebbe Airport. In her gripping biography Speregen introduces young readers to one of Israel's bravest soldiers. **Two other biographies of famous Jews by Speregen** are also acceptable: Albert Einstein and Ilan Ramon.

Fifteen Minutes- Steve Young

When seventh-grader Casey finds his grandfather's old watch in the attic, he puts it on, but like most of Grandpop's inventions, it doesn't seem to work right. Then, Casey discovers that he can't take it off. Grandpop's notebook reveals that the watch is actually a time machine that can take its wearer 15 minutes into the past. At first Casey is delighted, and he uses the watch to enhance his coolness rating with the popular girls and to outsmart a bully. But then...

Other options from the book fair:

Avi: The Seer of Shadows

Rawls: Where the Red Fern Grows

Du Prau: City of Ember

Curtis: Bud, Not Buddy

Swanson: Chasing Lincoln's Killer (non-fiction)

Riordan: The Lightning Thief

Funke: Igraine the Brave

Levine: Fairest

St. John: The White Giraffe

White: Belle Prater's Boy

7th Grade Summer Reading List

Notes Outline for Summer Book: Fiction

Directions: Use this outline as a guide. Be thorough! Use composition/typing paper with the Brandeis heading. Be sure to fill in your Notes Pages immediately after you finish reading your book. Bring your notes to class on the first day of school. Type (preferred) or write clearly in complete sentences.

Title of Book:

Author:

Date Reading Completed:

I. What is the **setting** (time and place)?

II. A. Who are the **major characters**?

B. Choose **one** main character. Choose two traits and list incidents from the plot which are your evidence for these traits.:

Main Character:	Character Traits	Evidence
	1.	1.
		2.
	2.	1.
		2.

III. Briefly explain the **plot** (what happens in the story). Focus on main events only. Write at least 10 events, including the beginning and the end of the story. Use additional sheets of paper when necessary.

IV. Write out **two** possible **themes** [idea(s) the writer wishes to convey to the reader] for your book.

Write one paragraph for each theme. In each paragraph, explain and support one of the themes: Why is each one an important idea the author wishes to express to the reader? What specific details or events in the book lead you to each theme? Please use composition paper or typing paper.

7th Grade Summer Reading List

Notes Outline for Summer Book: Non-Fiction

Directions: Use this outline as a guide. Be thorough! Use composition/typing paper with the Brandeis heading. Be sure to fill in your Notes Pages immediately after you finish reading your book. Bring your notes to class on the first day of school. Type (preferred) or write clearly in complete sentences.

Title of Book:

Author:

Date Reading Completed:

- I. What is the **setting** (time and place)?

- II. A. Make a list of three or more conflicts that you observed in your reading.
B. Choose one **major conflict** and write a well-organized paragraph explaining why it was central to the work of literature. (Write 8-10 sentences)

- III. Briefly explain the **plot/series of events** (what happens in the story). Focus on main events only. Write at least 10 events, including the beginning and the end of the story. Use additional paper.

- IV. Develop at least **two** possible **themes** [idea(s) the writer wishes to convey to the reader] for your book.

Write one paragraph for each theme. In each paragraph, explain and support one of the themes: How did you arrive at the theme? Why is each one an important idea the author wishes to express to the reader? What specific details or events led you to each theme? Please use composition paper or typing paper.