



### 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade English Reading Requirement

The English department at NorthPointe Christian Middle School has four goals when it comes to reading:

1. We desire to develop in students a love (or at least an enjoyment) of reading.
2. We desire to see students improve both their reading comprehension and their writing skills.
3. We desire students to have the opportunity to develop and exercise their ability to discern what is true and Godly in what they read.
4. We desire to prepare students to meet the expectations placed on them by the colleges they will attend.

With these goals in mind, we require that each student read throughout the school year. We have provided a list of various books from which students may choose. We have tried to select books of educational and moral merit, though it is still important that you help your children select books that reflect the values of your family. Please pre-approve the novels that your children read and confirm that they have completed the appropriate forms and projects by providing your signature on the Required Reading Form.

Students are required to complete 4 books, one for each quarter. They may begin their Required Reading this summer, though it is not necessary. There are deadlines for each quarter, but students can, at any time, read ahead of the deadlines. Students are required to select two books from the provided list that they have not previously read. The remaining two books do not need to be from the list, but they do need to be pre-approved by the English teacher. Each Reading Requirement counts as 10% of the student's English grade each quarter.

#### **Summary of Procedures:**

- Each student must read 4 books, 2 from the provided list. The other 2 can be chosen off the list as long as they are pre-approved by the English teacher.
- Upon completion of the reading, students will fill out the Reading Requirement Form and select one project to complete.
- Students must select a different project each quarter; no project can be completed more than once.
- A parent must sign the form once the student completes both the form and project.
- Forms and projects will be turned in to the English teacher by the deadline, which is the Friday before the end of each quarter.

#### **Notes:**

- Books may be read in advance.
- Books not on the list must be of an appropriate reading level.
- No more than one book from a series will count toward the reading requirement.
- Abridged versions and books on tape may not be utilized without prior authorization from the English teacher.
- Books that might be read in class are not on the list and cannot count for the Reading Requirement.

#### **Deadlines:**

- Each quarter, the report will be due the Friday before the last day of the quarter.

### 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Book List

1. Adams *Watership Down*
2. Alcott *Little Women*
3. Avi *Crispin: The Cross of Lead*
4. Avi *True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle*
5. Balliett *Chasing Vermeer*
6. Bloor *Tangerine*
7. Boyne *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*
8. Burnett *The Secret Garden*
9. Burpo *Heaven is for Real*
10. Cousins *Game Changer: Faith, Football, and Finding Your Way*
11. Crane *Red Badge of Courage*
12. Curtis *Bud, Not Buddy*
13. Curtis *The Watsons Go to Birmingham – 1963*
14. Davis *Kisses From Katie*
15. Davis *Raising Dragons*
16. Davis & Uwitonze *Her Own Two Feet: A Rwandan Girl's Brave Fight to Walk*
17. Dickens *Oliver Twist*
18. Frank *Diary of a Young Girl: Anne Frank*
19. Fox *Slave Dancer*
20. Goldman *The Princess Bride*
21. Hamilton *Soul Surfer*
22. Harris *Do Hard Things*
23. Hesse *Out of the Dust*
24. Hunt *Across Five Aprils*
25. Hunt *No Promises in the Wind*
26. Hunter *Generation Change: Roll Up Your Sleeves and Change the World*
27. Hyde *Pay It Forward*
28. Kamkwamba & Mealer *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind: Creating Currents of Electricity and Hope*
29. London *Call of the Wild*
30. Magorian *Good Night, Mr. Tom*
31. Melvin *Chasing Space: An Astronaut's Story of Grit, Grace, and Second Chances*
32. Montgomery *Anne of Green Gables*
33. Palacio *Wonder*
34. Paterson *The Bridge to Terabithia*
35. Paterson *Jacob Have I Loved*
36. Peck *A Long Way From Chicago*
37. Schmidt *Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy*
38. Schmidt *The Wednesday Wars*
39. Spinelli *Wringer*
40. Steinbeck *The Pearl*
41. Stevenson *Kidnapped*
42. Taylor *The Road to Memphis*
43. Taylor *Let the Circle Be Unbroken*
44. TeBow *Through My Eyes*
45. Ten Boom *The Hiding Place*
46. Tolkien *The Hobbit*
47. Ullman *Banner in the Sky*
48. Yates *Amos Fortune, Free Man*
49. Yankoski *Under the Overpass*

**English Reading Requirement Form**

Quarter (circle one):            1        2        3        4  
Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title of Book: \_\_\_\_\_  
Author of Book: \_\_\_\_\_

Answer the following questions in complete sentences:

1. What did you enjoy the most about the book? What did you enjoy the least?

1. What do you think was the author's purpose in writing the book?

1. Were there any Christian values present in the book? Explain.

Place a check mark in the blank next to the project you have completed.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Newscast
- \_\_\_\_\_ Skit/Reader's Theater
- \_\_\_\_\_ Mock Interview
- \_\_\_\_\_ Book Trailer/Advertisement
- \_\_\_\_\_ Shadow Box
- \_\_\_\_\_ Coloring Book
- \_\_\_\_\_ Song
- \_\_\_\_\_ Written Report

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### Newscaat

You are to write a television newscast and present your newscast to the class, live or in video format. The information from your book should be presented as though you were a news reporter with breaking news. Be sure you include a detailed description of the characters, setting, and plot in your newscast. You may write your newscast on note cards as prompts or memorize it. Remember that eye contact is important!

What you will hand in to your teacher:

- Completed Reading Requirement Form
- Newscaat (written or typed)
- Live or video performance required

Evaluation:

____/10	Content (characters, setting, plot, etc.)
____/5	2-3 minutes in length
____/5	Vocal qualities (volume, pace, unnecessary pauses, etc.)
____/5	Eye contact
____/5	Spelling/grammar of written or typed newscast
____/5	English Reading Requirement Form

### Coloring Book

You are to create a sequenced coloring book that includes at least 10 pictures. The 10 pictures should include all the major moments of the story in the order in which they occurred. Each picture must be hand-drawn, neat, and colored. Each picture must also include a caption (sentence or two) that reflects what the picture is about.

What you will hand in to your teacher:

- Completed Reading Requirement Form
- Coloring book

Evaluation:

____/10	Content (major plot components in sequential order)
____/10	At least 10 neat/hand-drawn pictures included and bound
____/5	Captions included
____/5	Spelling/grammar of captions
____/5	English Reading Requirement Form

### **Skit/Reader's Theatre**

Write (or type) a skit or reader's theatre of a scene from the book. Be creative! Select classmates, friends, or family members to join you in performing your skit or reader's theatre. This can be a live or video performance. Your performance needs to be 1:30 - 2 minutes in length. Practice, practice, practice!

What you will hand in to your teacher:

- Completed Reading Requirement Form
- Written (or typed) script
- Live or video performance required (1:30 - 2 minutes)

Evaluation:

____/10	Expressive performance
____/5	Written (or typed) script
____/5	1:30-2 minutes in length
____/5	Originality/creativity
____/5	Spelling/grammar of written or typed script
____/5	English Reading Requirement Form

### **Written Report**

You are to write (or type) a brief (2-3 sentence) summary for each chapter. In addition, you must include a description of the setting and a description of each major character to which you are introduced.

What you will hand in to your teacher:

- Completed Reading Requirement Form
- Written report

Evaluation:

____/15	Chapter summaries
____/10	Character descriptions
____/5	Setting description
____/5	English Reading Requirement Form

### **Mock Interview**

Imagine you are the main character of your book and are being interviewed by a talk show host. Write out (or type) a collection of thoughtful questions that will be used to interview you. Then write out (or type) an answer for each of the questions using what you have learned in your reading. Select a classmate, friend, or family member who will serve as the talk show host. Make a copy of the questions and answers for both you and the individual you have selected. Practice, practice, practice! Your performance may be live or in video format.

What you will hand in to your teacher:

- Completed Reading Requirement Form
- Interview questions and answers (written or typed)
- Live or video performance required

Evaluation:

____/10	Content (thoughtful questions and answers)
____/5	2-3 minutes in length
____/5	Vocal qualities (volume, pace, unnecessary pauses, etc.)
____/5	Performance (expressive, believable, etc.)
____/5	Spelling/grammar of written or typed interview
____/5	English Reading Requirement Form

### **Book Trailer/Advertisement**

Create an enticing trailer or advertisement for the book. This can be video or written in format. Your goal is to “sell” the book, making it sound like a “must read.” Be sure to include the major characters, setting, and plot, but don’t give away the ending! Be persuasive!

What you will hand in to your teacher:

- Completed Reading Requirement Form
- Video trailer or written advertisement

Evaluation:

____/10	Content (characters, setting, plot, etc.)
____/10	Persuasive – grabs attention
____/5	Originality/creativity
____/5	Vocal qualities (if video) or spelling/grammar (if written)
____/5	English Reading Requirement Form

### Shadow Box

You are to construct a shadow box displaying a scene or picture from the book. This shadow box should be constructed by hand with any materials you deem necessary. The inside of your box needs to be covered in its entirety. The title of the book, author of the book, and your name should be included, as well as a paragraph describing the scene you chose. Be creative!

What you will hand in to your teacher:

- Completed Reading Requirement Form
- Shadow box

Evaluation:

____/10	Relevant picture/scene
____/5	Constructed by hand
____/5	Originality/creativity
____/5	Necessary information included
____/5	Written and thorough paragraph included
____/5	English Reading Requirement Form

### Song

Write a song that tells the story from your book. Be sure you include a detailed description of the characters, setting, and plot in your song. Put your song to a familiar tune. You may perform your song live or videotape your performance. Be creative and have fun!

What you will hand in to your teacher:

- Completed Reading Requirement Form
- Song lyrics (written or typed)
- Live or video performance required

Evaluation:

____/10	Content (characters, setting, plot, etc.)
____/5	Originality/creativity
____/5	Vocal qualities (volume, pace, clarity, etc.)
____/5	Expressive performance
____/5	Spelling/grammar of written or typed lyrics
____/5	English Reading Requirement Form