

English 8

2026-2027 Reading List

Required Reading: *Life of Pi* - Yann Martel

You will have a test on your required reading the first week of school. After the novel report format has been discussed in class, a novel report on *Life of Pi* will be due the first six weeks.

Please choose a novel that you have not read previously for your second selection as you will be assessed on it as well. You will have novel reports due several times throughout the year.

Suggested Reading:

Tolan, Stephanie	<i>Surviving the Applewhites</i>
Kadohata, Cynthia	<i>Kira-Kira</i>
Stead, Rebecca	<i>Goodbye Stranger</i>
Lupica, Mike	<i>Travel Team</i>
	<i>The Big Field</i>
Spinelli, Jerry	<i>Milkweed</i>
Kirby, Matthewv	<i>Icefall</i>
Anderson, Laurie Halse	<i>Fever 1793</i>
Schmidt, Gary	<i>The Labors of Hercules Beale</i>
George, Jean Craighead	<i>Julie of the Wolves</i>
Paulsen, Gary	<i>Dogsong</i>
Haddox, Margaret	<i>Among the Hidden</i>
Preller, James	<i>Bystander</i>
Jansen, Hope	<i>The Adventures of Mary Jane</i>
Larsen, Hope	<i>All Summer Long</i>

Gaiman, Neil	<i>Graveyard Book</i>
Nix, Garth	<i>Frogkisser</i>
Steinbeck, John	<i>The Pearl</i>
Bradbury, Ray	<i>Dandelion Wine</i>
Park, Linda Sue	<i>A Single Shard</i>
Paulsen, Gary	<i>The River (sequel to Hatchet)</i>
Moore, Kate	<i>The Radium Girls</i>
Hopkins, Ellen	<i>What About Will</i>
Hersey, John	<i>Hiroshima</i>
Cormier, Robert	<i>I Am the Cheese</i>
Evans, Richard	<i>Michael Vey and the Prisoner of Cell 25</i>
Van Draanen, Wendelin	<i>Flipped</i>
Jackson, Livia Bitton	<i>I Have Lived a Thousand Years</i>
Spinelli, Jerry	<i>Stargirl</i>
Irving, John	<i>A Prayer for Owen Meany</i>
Orwell, George	<i>Animal Farm</i>
Wallace, Daniel	<i>Big Fish</i>
Yang, Gene	<i>Dragon Hoops</i>
Harrar, George	<i>Not As Crazy as I Seem</i>
Lubar, David	<i>Dunk</i>

- Students may choose a grade appropriate novel of their choice as their second selection; however, it must be approved by Ms. Crowder by emailing crowdera@brunswickacademy.com no later than August 1st, 2026. Please include your name, grade, and the title & author of the novel.

Strongly Suggested Reading:

Greenberg, Michael *Painless Study Techniques*

The following will be explained and discussed in detail during the first six weeks:

Novel Report Format (to be used during the school year)

1. Title, Author, Original Publication Date
2. Authorial Background (include reasons for writing the book)
3. Literary Period (not the same thing as date when novel was written) & other authors of the same literary period
4. Setting
5. Character Sketch (of ONE character - describe and analyze using literary terms)
6. Unique Literary Devices Used by the Author - for example, symbolism, allusions, flashbacks, etc.

All novel reports are to be written in paragraph form in MLA format. Research is required for #1, #2 #3, and #6 above, and in-text citations are required for #1, #2, #3 and #6 as well. This means you must have a works cited page.

All reports are to be typed in Times New Roman in 12 pt. font and double-spaced and placed in a folder. Papers will not be accepted unless they are in a folder.

There are no acceptable excuses for late work. Manage your time and do not wait until the last minute. I do not want to hear that your computer or printer would not work, that your printer ran out of ink, or that you do not have a computer and, therefore, had to wait for your best friend to finish his/her report before you could type yours.

Cliff's Notes (or any other study aid) or on-line study sites such as *pinkmonkey*, *sparknotes*, *enotes*, *bookrags*, etc., are not acceptable replacements for the original book or as reference sources.