

Dear Incoming McCullough Students,

In Conroe ISD, we encourage all students to read over the summer in order to enrich learning and provoke thought. Summer reading strengthens reading skills, increases academic achievement, fosters a love for reading, and empowers students to become life-long learners.

Additionally, students are expected to engage in summer reading as it prepares them for the upcoming school year and creates an initial common framework for classroom discussion and instruction.

**The Assignment:** Read and annotate one book from the attached guide. Students are encouraged to read more than one book over the summer, but only one is required for this assignment.

**Required for all incoming 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade McCullough students, both level and honors.**

**Annotating:** Annotating a text is like having a conversation with a book—it allows the active reader to ask questions, comment on meaning, and mark events and passages they want to revisit. Your annotations, or notes, will be used to guide your understanding and participation in discussions about theme, literary devices, and author’s choices.

- Highlight or underline important passages, words, or descriptions, and write a note as to why you identified the passage, words, or descriptions.
- Note and underline new characters when they are introduced.
- Comment on words, images, and details that seem to form a pattern throughout the novel.
- Highlight passages that you think might be symbolic, and record your comments in the margins.
- Write notes in the margins (your reaction to what happens, predictions, characterizations, questions you might have for the author or about the story, etc.).
- Note interesting techniques the author used or questions you have for the author.

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Our school district has also provided us with a list of ways to access free books online:

- **Sora** (an app found in the CISD SSO Portal)
  - Free access to a variety of e-books and audiobooks.
- **Destiny Discover** (an app found in the CISD SSO Portal)
  - Check out ebooks and audiobooks from our campus library
- **Montgomery County Public Library**
  - E-books and audiobooks: <https://countylibrary.org/ebooks.htm>
  - Get a digital library card: <https://countylibrary.org/card-online.htm>
- **Open Library**
  - Create a free account: <https://openlibrary.org/account/create>
  - PK-12 student library: <https://openlibrary.org/collections/k-12>
- **Project Gutenberg**
  - Free ebooks: <https://www.gutenberg.org>
  - Top 100 most popular: <http://www.gutenberg.org/browse/scores/top>
- **Audible**
  - Free audiobooks: <https://www.audible.com/ep/FreeListens>

Listed below is McCullough’s 2022 Summer Reading assignment for both incoming 7th and 8th grade students. Each grade level is assigned a specific genre to choose a title from, but they are not required to select one of the provided options. The books listed below are only suggestions based on popularity for the age group and are not indicative or reflective of CISD or McCullough’s standards and beliefs. Always preview the content of novels prior to making the commitment with your child. Common Sense Media and other parent/student review websites are a good way to check content and language of a book before purchasing or checking out a title. Some books have different editions and versions; if there is a “Young Reader’s Edition” listed below, then it is advised that students read that particular version of the title. If you have any questions regarding the assignment, please contact our language arts department chair, Tyler Baird (tdbaird@conroeisd.net).

7th Grade	8th Grade
<p><b>Genre Assignment:</b> <u>Memoir</u></p> <p><i>**Students may select any title within the genre. Below is a list of popular books for the category.</i></p> <p><b>Possible Titles:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind (Young Reader’s Edition)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ William Kamkwamba</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. <i>It’s Trevor Noah: Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood (Young Reader’s Edition)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Trevor Noah</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. <i>I Will Always Write Back: How One Letter Changed Two Lives</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Caitlin Alifirenka and Martin Ganda</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. <i>Almost American Girl (Graphic Novel)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Robin Ha</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. <i>Breakaway: Beyond the Goal</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Alex Morgan</li> </ul> </li> <li>6. <i>No Summit Out of Sight: The True Story of the Youngest Person to Climb the Seven Summits</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Jordan Romero</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<p><b>Genre Assignment:</b> <u>Dystopian Literature</u></p> <p><i>**Students may select any title within the genre. Below is a list of popular books for the category.</i></p> <p><b>Possible Titles:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>The City of Ember</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Jeanne DuPrau</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. <i>Skyhunter</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Marie Lu</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. <i>Red Queen</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Victoria Aveyard</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. <i>The Giver</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Lois Lowry</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. <i>Cinder</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Marissa Meyer</li> </ul> </li> <li>6. <i>Uglies</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Scott Westerfeld</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<p><a href="#">CommonSenseMedia Parent Guide to the Above-Listed Possible Titles</a></p>	