

JSTEM
7th Grade Pre-AP/ TAG Summer Reading Information
Due: August 17, 2022

Dear Incoming 7th grade Pre-AP/GT English Parents and Students:

Welcome to Pre-AP/ TAG ELAR! I am so excited to meet all of you next year. Attached is your summer reading assignment. Please read through each handout very carefully and email one of the contact persons listed below if you have any questions. It is imperative that you allow yourself enough time to thoroughly read your chosen novel. The novel will also be used in class to do Literature Circles during the first weeks of school. Your signature on our roster for the welcoming meeting indicates your accountability to complete this assignment with complete honor.

I look forward to meeting you!

Sincerely,

Meghann Latimer

JSTEM 7th Grade ELAR Teacher

Campus/District Contacts	Teacher	Contact Information
JSTEM	Meghann Latimer	mlatimer@judsonisd.org

Novel Choices: Choose one of the 4 novels to read from the provided list

1. *Isaac's Storm: A Man, a Time, and the Deadliest Hurricane In History* by Erik Larson
2. *The Secret of the Yellow Death – A true story of Medical Sleuthing* By Suzanne Jurmain
3. *Insignia* by S.J.Kincaid
4. *The Face on the Milk Carton* by Caroline B. Cooney

**** book number 4 above is on the JISD approved reading list

Summary of the novels:

Isaac's Storm: A Man, a Time, and the Deadliest Hurricane in History

September 8, 1900, began innocently in the seaside town of Galveston, Texas. Even Isaac Cline, resident meteorologist for the U.S. Weather Bureau failed to grasp the true meaning of the strange deep-sea swells and peculiar winds that greeted the city that morning. Mere hours later, Galveston found itself submerged in a monster hurricane that completely destroyed the town and killed over six thousand people in what remains the greatest natural disaster in American history--and Isaac Cline found himself the victim of a devastating personal tragedy.

Using Cline's own telegrams, letters, and reports, the testimony of scores of survivors, and our latest understanding of the science of hurricanes, Erik Larson builds a chronicle of one man's heroic struggle and fatal miscalculation in the face of a storm of unimaginable magnitude. Riveting, powerful, and unbearably suspenseful, *Isaac's Storm* is the story of what can happen when human arrogance meets the great uncontrollable force of nature.

** Warning a lot of death and destruction noted in the book**

The Secret of the Yellow Death- A true story of Medical sleuthing

Red oozes from the patient's gums. He has a rushing headache and the whites of his eyes look like lemons. He will likely die within days.

Here is the true story of how four Americans and one Cuban tracked down a killer, one of the world's most vicious plagues: yellow fever. Set in fever-stricken Cuba, this book allows the reader to feel the heavy air, smell the stench of disease, hears the whine of mosquitoes biting human volunteers during the surreal experiments. Exploring themes of courage, cooperation, and the ethics of human experimentation, this gripping account is ultimately a story of the triumph of science.

Insignia

The earth is in the middle of WWII in *Insignia*, the first entry in S. J. Kincaid's fast-paced sci-fi adventure trilogy perfect for fans of *Ender's Game*.

The planet's natural resources are almost gone, and war is being fought to control the assets of the solar system. The enemy is winning. The salvation may be Tom Raines. Tom doesn't seem like a hero. He's a short fourteen-year-old with bad skin. But he has the virtual-reality gaming skills that make him a phenom behind the controls of the battle drones.

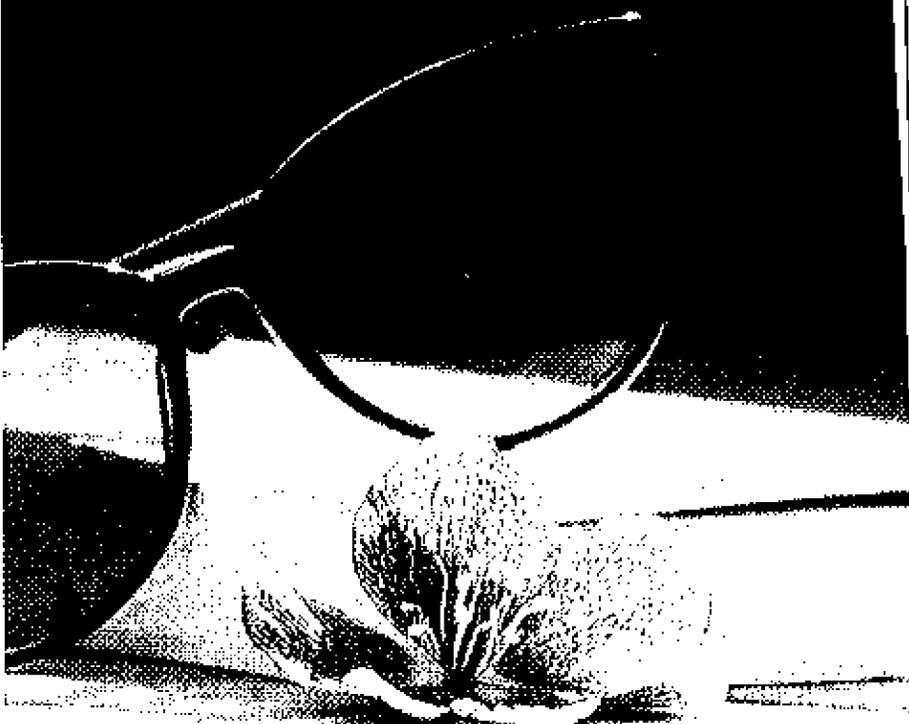
As a new member of the Intersolar Forces, Tom's life completely changes. Suddenly, he's someone important. He has new opportunities, friends, and a shot at having a girlfriend. But there's a price to pay. . . .

The Face on the Milk Carton

No one ever really paid close attention to the faces of the missing children on the milk cartons. But as Janie Johnson glanced at the face of the ordinary little girl with her hair in tight pigtails, wearing a dress with a narrow white collar--a three-year-old who had been kidnapped twelve years before from a shopping mall in New Jersey--she felt overcome with shock. She recognized that little girl--it was she. How could it possibly be true? Janie can't believe that her loving parents kidnapped her, but as she begins to piece things together, nothing makes sense. Something is terribly wrong. Are Mr. and Mrs. Johnson really her parents? And if not, who is Janie Johnson, and what really happened?

** warning contains a few mature scenes**

Summer Reading Choice Boards



DIRECTIONS:

**PLEASE SEE THE NEXT PAGE.
YOU WILL CHOOSE HOW YOU
WANT TO DO YOUR
ASSIGNMENT.**

**YOU MUST EITHER GO
DIAGONAL ↘ ↙,
HORIZONTAL ← →, OR
VERTICAL ↑ ↓ AND COMPLETE
THE ASSIGNMENTS IN THAT
ROW.**

**EACH WRITING SHOULD BE
ABOUT A PAGE IN LENGTH
HANDWRITTEN OR ½ PAGE
TYPED.**

YOU CAN ALWAYS DO MORE!!!

Student: _____

Book Title: _____

Summer Reading Choice Board

<p>Convince your teacher this book absolutely should (or should not) be taught next year. Support your opinion with specific events in the story.</p>	<p>Think of a few songs that would compliment this story? Create a book playlist of 7-10 songs.</p>	<p>Create and award for this book and explain why it won. The award can be for the whole book or individual parts like characters or plot.</p>	<p>Change the setting of the book. How would this alter events and affect the characters?</p>	<p>Write a poem, song, or rap about one of the characters from the novel. What are they most known for?</p>
<p>Redesign the cover of the book. What other images might be appropriate for the front of the book?</p>	<p>Make up 5 interview questions (with answers) for one of the characters. What would you like to know, and what would they say?</p>	<p>Choose a favorite quote from the book. Why did this quote stand out? Would it make a good Life Motto?</p>	<p>Analyze the title of the book. Does it fit? What else could it be called? Write three (3) alternate titles and explain why they might work.</p>	<p>Discuss similarities and differences between this book and another book you have read. Possibly use a Venn Diagram.</p>
<p>Summarize this novel in the fewest words possible. Aim for 30 words or less</p>	<p>Explain how the author's style affects your appreciation of the book. Use examples from the story in your answer.</p>	 <p>FREE SPACE</p>	<p>Compose a letter to the author (neatly written or typed) suggesting an idea for a sequel. What do you want to see continued or updated?</p>	<p>After reading this book, what do you want to learn more about? List five connected topics of research.</p>
<p>Make a map of important places where the story takes place. Label with the reason why each place is significant.</p>	<p>Draw a portrait of your favorite character. Include details from the story in this person's image.</p>	<p>List 5 new words learned from this book. Define them and share the sentence in which you found them originally.</p>	<p>If you could hear the same story from another person's point of view, who would you choose? How would the story be different?</p>	<p>Sketch an image of an important/your favorite scene. Stick figures are ok but use details in the other elements.</p>
<p>Change the ending of this piece. What could be different or surprising?</p>	<p>Write a review for this book. Would you give it a thumbs up or a thumbs down? Why? Use examples from the book in your answer.</p>	<p>Make a collage for your book with pictures you find online, or hand drawn. What 10 images would represent this story?</p>	<p>Help it sell! Design a slogan for this book and use it in an ad that would encourage someone else to read it.</p>	<p>Choose a strong adjective to describe this book. Explain your choice with examples from the text.</p>

Category	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2	Level 1
Quality of Work	The student completed more than the required number of tasks by their due date.	The student completed all of the required tasks by their due date.	The student completed most of the required tasks by their due date.	The student completed very few of the required tasks by their due date.
Choices	The student chose a great mixture of assignments to complete, showing at least 4 different skills. Based on their abilities, the student pushed themselves to complete challenging assignments that were out their comfort zone.	The student chose a good mixture of assignments to complete, showing at least 3 different skills. Based on their abilities, the student pushed themselves to complete challenging assignments.	The student chose an adequate mix of assignments to complete, showing least 2 different skills. Based on their abilities, the student could have pushed themselves to complete more challenging assignments	The student chose only easy tasks that only showed 1-2 skills. Based on their abilities, the student chose assignments
Completeness	The student completed all parts of each of their assignments, and extended their thinking beyond what was required.	The student completed all parts of their assignments to their individual ability.	The student complete most parts of their assignments to their individual ability, or completed the tasks with little detail.	The student completed few parts of their assignments, or completed the assignments with no additional detail.
Accuracy	The answers are correct and show connections and extensions.	The answers are correct and show connections	The answers are mostly correct and show some connection	There are many errors in the assignments and there is no connection