

8th grade Assignment List
CRA(Y) about Reading! Six Weeks Creative Reading Assignment
***** You cannot use novels you read in 6th or 7th grade. *****

Choose a book that you would like to read that is over 100 pages in length. After you finish, choose one of the following creative reading assignments to complete for a major grade (use correct grammar). **On your rubric, be sure to write down the option number you choose to do near your name.** *Ex: Betsy Trotwood – Option 7.*

***** If you choose to use a book that has been made into a movie, your only CRA option is #1. *****
Writer’s Workshop- For Those Who Love to Write

1. Compare and Contrast the Book to the Movie. *See teacher for graphic organizer.

2.Recreate the story as a “Choose Your Own Adventure” tale. You must have at least 10 “branches” where readers can choose between one action or another and then deal with the consequences. Ask the librarian or your teacher for more information.

3.Create a character - A great exercise in creativity, characterization, setting, and voice. Students create a character that would fit into the world of their novel. They write up a character sketch and then construct a scene in which their new character interacts with one or more of the main characters of the story. Make sure to explain how this new character and their interactions with other characters in the book remain true to the setting and voice of the original author.

4. Rewrite your book as a children’s book. Remember to be appropriate for your audience! You could also retell the story by creating an interactive 3-D pop-up children’s book. ZooBurst is a digital storytelling tool that lets anyone easily create his or her own 3D pop-up books. Authors can arrange characters and props within a 3D world that can use uploaded artwork or items found in a built-in database of over 10,000 free images and materials.

For Those Who Love Art/Technology

5.Create a multi-media collage - Glogster is a FREE service that allows users to create one-page media-mash-ups using images, audio, video, text, and more. **Make sure to explain each image and how it relates to your book** (You can use a different paper for this or write on the back of our collage.)

6.Create a comic strip - Re-create 10 scenes in the book or a synopsis of the story as a whole using the popular graphic novel-style and using text bubbles to insert important lines, quotes, and thoughts from the text. ToonDoo: <http://toondoo.com> Creaza<http://creaza.com> Piki Kids: <http://pikikids.com> Kerpoof: <http://kerpoof.com>

Include key characters from the book as well as the problem and solution. If there are no appropriate background templates to fit the book, you can tell the story in the form of an interview between two characters. **Make sure you explain how this comic strip is related to your book.**

7. Be a costume designer OR set designer - Consider what it would be like to stage a production of the story. Using magazines and photos, create fashion boards to represent how you would dress the main characters and/or set boards to detail how you would set the stage including backdrops, lighting, props, etc. Write-ups should include why these visual choices were made and how they relate to the text using concrete examples.

8. Create an original book jacket. Include illustrations (with color), an enticing synopsis/teaser, author bio, and original favorable reviews. (You cannot copy the original-Copyright law) See separate handout.

9. Illustrate the book with 4 detailed drawings/illustrations (**NO STICK FIGURES**) that would go in the book. Each illustration should be in color and have **1 – 2 DETAILED** paragraphs explaining how the illustrations relate to your novel. Each illustration should be on a separate sheet of paper.

For Those Who Love Psychology/Learning About The Why Behind The Way People Act

10. Write a character resume - Choose one character. Consider what type of job the character would be seeking, and write a resume for that job. Resumes may be funny or serious as long as it reflects the true nature of the character, like Count Dracula applying for a position as a phlebotomist (doctors who draw blood). You may need to go back and explore the book again, looking for both direct and implied information about their characters and noting the location of supporting details. Be sure to explain *why* this character would want this job. Google what goes on a resume and the different types of resumes before selecting this assignment. This is a high level assignment.

11. Create a character diary - Choose a character from the book and compose a diary or journal with at least 15 entries discussing important events in the story from the character's point of view. **Each entry should have a date and be at least 8-12 sentences long.**

12. Create a character scrapbook - Consider the purpose of scrapbooking and what kinds of mementos they would place in their own scrapbooks. After choosing a character from the text, use magazines, newspapers, and your own imagination to cut out and/or draw mementos that would be important to the character. **Be sure to EXPLAIN how each memento relates to the character/book. Minimum 10 pages not including cover.**

For Those Who Love Music

13. Write a ballad or song about the characters and events in your story. Set the words to the music of a popular song. Make sure you tell which popular song your song should be read as. Also: **EXPLAIN** why you chose these lyrics and how they relate to your text. * **See your teacher for specifics.** *

14. Create a novel soundtrack - Choose at least 15 songs that represent the characters, setting, themes, motifs, plotline, etc. of the novel being studied. Liner notes should be completed for each song detailing the song information (title, artist, album, year of release), who or what the song represents, an explanation of why the song was chosen **and** how it is representative of an element of the story.

- 15. Choose a character's favorite playlist.** The playlist should have at least 15 songs that would represent that character, memories, events that happened, special moments, accomplishments, and personality traits. Liner notes should be completed for each song detailing the song information (title, artist, album, year of release, etc.), who or what the song represents, an explanation of why the song was chosen **and** how it is representative of an element of the story.

For Those Who Love Learning or Research- Knowing for the Sake of Knowing

- 16. Research a real societal or social problem** that relates to the story and create a list of 10 links for articles that would go with the book. Write a short 1-2 page paper that puts that information together (explain how each link relates to that problem in the text and why you chose it).
- 17.** If you read an informational book, **create an Infographic with at least 20 facts.** Explain why you chose each of these facts. Each fact should have an image or drawing with them. www.piktochart is a good resource to use for this option.
- 18. Create a Jeopardy game based on the book.** Create at least 5 categories and 5 questions in each category. (That's a total of 25 questions you should have with 25 answers.)
- 19. Create a list of at least 10 "read-alikes", books that our library has that are similar to the book you read.** If your list is good, the librarian will put that list in the back of the book you read for future students to use. You must EXPLAIN how each of these books relates to your book. Be sure to include **1 paragraph per book.**
- 20. Write ten Instagram/Book Club questions that could be posted to start an online discussion or essay about the book.** Or, write ten questions that test other students' understanding of the story. Make sure you provide a list of answers. They need to be detailed and not just "memory" questions (level 2 and 3 questions).

For Those Who Love Photography/Film/Media

- 21. Create a 30 second movie commercial/book trailer** - Just like a movie trailer, a book trailer tells the story in a way that touches on the highlights, but sells the audience on wanting to experience it. **Write a short report (15-20 sentences) explaining your choices (the things you used in your book trailer).**

There are tons of free resources you can use online:

Creaza<http://creaza.com>

Kerpoof<http://kerpoof.com>

Photo Story 3

Xtra normal text to movie <http://xtranormal.com>

Windows Movie Maker

Animoto: <http://animoto.com>

PhotoPeach

Be sure to keep it between 45 and 60 seconds, use **copyright friendly** photos in the proper size/resolution, and tell the story without giving away the ending!

22. **Create an animated or stop-motion video** - Stop Motion Animator and Helium Frog are both FREE resources for creating stop-motion projects. Kevin Hodgson has an absolutely fantastic site, Making Stopmotion Movies, that will walk you through the entire process! Include a short report explaining your choices.
23. **Create an All-Star Cast List.** Who would you cast in the character roles in a movie-version of this book? Create a casting list of the top 20 characters **and explain** what each actor or actress has that would make them fit each role.
24. **Create a travel brochure** for the setting of the story. Include at least 10 can't miss stops from the book **and** 10 quality photos. On a separate sheet of paper, write one paragraph describing the setting of your book.

**** If you find a book that you find interesting and it is less than 100 pages in length, please see your teacher for approval.**