

## 8th Grade ELA Summer Assignments Packet

For 7th Grade Students Entering 8th Grade

Happy summer 8th Graders!

During the summer months, you will be completing summer reading assignments to prepare for ELA for the 2021-2022 school year.

The intention of the assignments is to enhance your ELA skills over the summer so that you are ready to learn in September! Below you will find a checklist that you can use to ensure that you have completed all of the components of the packet before the start of school. **Please note that these are GRADED assignments that count toward quarter 1. Rubrics for the project and written assignment are attached. These assignments are due NO LATER than Friday, September 10, 2021.**

**SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS PACKET CHECKLIST (place a check mark on the line next to each topic once you have completed them.)**

1. **Summer Reading Book Choice:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Title:  
Author:
2. **Written Assignment:** \_\_\_\_\_
3. **Reading Project:** \_\_\_\_\_
4. **IXL Review (place check mark next to each topic once it has been completed)Further instructions for this section is in the packet**

Topic ID:	Topic Name
Y7 _____	Is it a complete sentence, fragment, or a run-on?
HH1 _____	Identify prepositional phrases
EE1 _____	Use the correct verb-the compound subjects

FF1 _____	Irregular past tense: review
MM2 _____	Commas with complex and compound sentences
MM3 _____	Commas with direct address, introductory words, interjections and interrupters
GG6 _____	Form and use comparative and superlative adjectives
CC3 _____	Compound subjects and objects with pronouns
E1 _____	Identify sensory details
M1 _____	Use personification

**5. Two Dogonews Articles & Questions : \_\_\_\_\_**

## Summer Reading Assignment

Please choose **ONE** of the following books to read:

1. *Messenger* by Lois Lowry
2. *Woodsong* by Gary Paulsen
3. *Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings, A Memoir* by Margarita Engle

Once you have finished your summer reading book, please choose **ONE assignment** from the writing projects list **AND ONE project** from the hands-on projects listed below.

**PLEASE NOTE:** All written projects must be typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman, Size 12 font. The following heading must be included at the top of your written project.

Name  
SMS

Date  
Grade 8 ELA

WRITING PROJECTS	HAND-ON PROJECTS
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Write a <b>two page</b> alternate ending to the story. Be sure to include the main characters that appeared in the original ending of the story in the new ending. Be as detailed as possible.</li><li>1. Imagine that you are the main character of the novel. Write a <b>two page</b> diary entry from the perspective of the main character to their best friend describing their experiences in the novel. Be sure to include the title and author of the novel in your entry.</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Book advertisement:</b> The author has asked you to create a poster advertising for his or her novel. The design should include the book title, author and any other symbols that represent the novel. Poster cannot be designed on the computer. It must be drawn and colored by hand. Please prepare the project on a small size poster board. On the back of the poster board, describe in one paragraph (7-10 sentences) why you designed</li></ol>

3. Write a **two page** review of the book. Explain why you would (or wouldn't) recommend the book to your peers and review/evaluate the book compared to other books of the same genre.

the poster the way you did. Please be sure to type your paragraph.

2. **Book Mobile:** Using a hanger, create a mobile for your book. Choose 7 pictures or symbols that represent moments in the novel. Attach each of the pictures from individual strings from the hanger. On the back of each picture, write a 3-5 sentence description as to how the picture is related to the novel.

3. **Treasure Chest:** Using an empty box with a cover, design a treasure chest for the book. The design on the outside of the box should include 10 pictures or symbols that represent the novel. Please do not print pictures off the internet; they should be hand drawn and colored. Be sure to cover the entire outside of the box. On the inside of the box, include a typed paper that includes a one paragraph description of the pictures and symbols used on the outside of the box.

## IXL/Current Events Assignment

Each student is expected to complete the following IXL topics before the first day of school. A checklist is offered on the cover page of this assignment so students can check off which topics have already been completed. Students log onto IXL using the username and password provided by their ELA teacher. To access the assigned topics, students should click on the grade 7 tab under Learning and find the letter and number that corresponds to each topic listed below. Students should score at least a 95% on each.

Topic ID:	Topic Name
X7	Is it a complete sentence, fragment, or a run-on?
FF1	Identify prepositions
CC2	Use the correct verb—the compound subjects
DD1	Irregular past tense: review
JJ2	Commas with complex and compound sentences
JJ3	Commas with direct address, introductory words, interjections and interrupters
EE7	Form and use comparative and superlative adjectives
AA3	Compound subjects and objects with pronouns
E1	Identify sensory details
L1	Use personification

**CURRENT EVENTS ARTICLES:CURRENT CURRENT EVENT ARTICLES:** During the summer, please find 2 current event articles online. Once you have found the article,answer the questions below in a Google Doc. Be sure to include the URL to the website of your article. Next, answer each of the following questions in 5-8 complete sentences.

Topic of Article: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Article: \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_

**WHO** is this article about? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**WHAT** is this story about? List four important facts from your article.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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**WHEN** did this story take place?

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**WHERE** is this event or issue occurring? (Specify city, country, region, etc.)

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**WHY** is this story important?

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**CONNECT** the article. What does it have to do with you? Can it be connected to anything we learned or are learning about in class?

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## **HOW WILL I BE GRADED?**

**Please see the attached rubric for any written and hands-on activities.**

**IXL will be graded out of 100= 10 points per topic completed.**

### **RUBRIC FOR CURRENT EVENTS ARTICLE**

**Grading will be based on the following rubric:**

**4 – Entire Current Event assignment displays the following requirements for each question/statement above:**

**Demonstrates thoughtfulness, preparation, and accuracy.**

**Reflects real understanding of the story and the issues.**

**Follows directions.**

**Is complete, neat, and includes the entire article.**

**Asks and answers a provocative (for discussion purposes) question.**

**3 – Current Event assignment is complete but lacks 2 of the above requirements.**

**2 – Current Event assignment lacks 3 of the requirements.**

**1 – Current Event assignment lacks 4 of the requirements.**

**0 – Current Event assignment is late (except all day absence) or lacks 5 or more of the above requirements.**



### New Jersey Holistic Scoring Rubric for Essay Writing—6pt

Scoring Criteria	New Jersey Holistic Scoring Rubric for Essay Writing—6pt						
	Inadequate Command 1	Limited Command 2	Partial Command 3	Adequate Command 4	Strong Command 5	Superior Command 6	
<b>CONTENT &amp; ORGANIZATION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communicates intended message to intended audience</li> <li>Relates to topic</li> <li>Opening and closing</li> <li>Focused</li> <li>Logical progression of ideas</li> <li>Transitions</li> <li>Appropriate details and information</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May lack opening and/or closing</li> <li>Minimal response to topic; uncertain focus</li> <li>No planning evident; disorganized</li> <li>Details random, inappropriate, or barely apparent</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May lack opening and/or closing</li> <li>Attempts to focus</li> <li>May drift or shift focus</li> <li>Attempts organization</li> <li>Few, if any, transitions between ideas</li> <li>Details lack elaboration, i.e., highlight paper</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May lack opening and/or closing</li> <li>Usually has single focus</li> <li>Some lapses or flaws in organization</li> <li>May lack some transitions between ideas</li> <li>Repetitious details</li> <li>Several unelaborated details</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Generally has opening/closing</li> <li>Single focus</li> <li>Ideas loosely connected</li> <li>Transition evident</li> <li>Uneven development of details</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opening and closing</li> <li>Single focus</li> <li>Sense of unity and coherence</li> <li>Key ideas developed</li> <li>Logical progression of ideas</li> <li>Moderately fluent</li> <li>Attempts compositional risks</li> <li>Details appropriate and varied</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opening and closing</li> <li>Single, distinct focus</li> <li>Unified and coherent</li> <li>Well-developed</li> <li>Logical progression of ideas</li> <li>Fluent, cohesive</li> <li>Compositional risks successful</li> <li>Details effective, vivid, explicit, and/or pertinent</li> </ul>	
	<b>USAGE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tense formation</li> <li>Subject-verb agreement</li> <li>Pronouns</li> <li>usage/agreement</li> <li>Word choice/meaning</li> <li>Proper modifiers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No apparent control</li> <li>Severe numerous errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Numerous errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Errors/patterns of errors may be evident</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some errors that do not interfere with meaning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Few errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Very few, if any, errors</li> </ul>
		<b>SENTENCE CONSTRUCTION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Variety of type, structure, and length</li> <li>Correct construction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assortment of incomplete and/or incorrect sentences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excessive monotony/same structure</li> <li>Numerous errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Little variety in syntax</li> <li>Some errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some errors that do not interfere with meaning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Few errors</li> </ul>
<b>MECHANICS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spelling</li> <li>Capitalization</li> <li>Punctuation</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Errors so severe they detract from meaning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Numerous serious errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Patterns of errors evident</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No consistent pattern of errors</li> <li>Some errors that do not interfere with meaning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Few errors</li> </ul>

Non-Scorable Responses	NR = No Response	Student wrote too little to allow judgment of his/her writing.	NE = Not English WF = Wrong Format	Student wrote in a language other than English.
	OT = Off Topic/ Off Task	Student did not write on the assigned topic/task or the student attempted to copy the prompt.		Student refused to write on the topic, or the writing task folder was blank.

Hello incoming Eighth Graders!

Here is your summer work packet. I've kept the entire packet digital so there's no worries about losing any paper or printing out things. Everything you're doing for your summer work is on the IXL website. The skills assigned over the summer are all located under the *Eighth Grade* Heading. The assignments can be found by either clicking the "Learning" tab and choosing Eighth Grade, which will list all of the eighth grade skills, or by clicking the "Recommendations" tab and then clicking on the "Suggestions" star near the upper right of the page. That will give you a list of all of the summer skills I have recommended. The packet is due **NO LATER than September 10th.** **Note:** As an extra precaution I recommend taking a screenshot or photo of completed assignments as you complete them in case there are any IXL glitches during the summer.

**The Assignments:** I have assigned 26 Eighth Grade skills for practice over the summer. I have provided the skill letter and number, as well as the skill title, for example "A.1 Factors". **Note: If there is some conflict between skill name and skill number please do the skill that has the matching skill name!** IXL is always adding new skills to all grade levels and sometimes the skill numbering scheme gets changed, but the titles rarely do. In order for a skill to count as complete the student must get a Smart Score of **90 or above.**

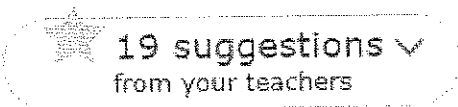
Have a great summer and see you in the fall!

Mr. Garlatti

**IXL Website:** [www.ixl.com/signin/saintmatthias](http://www.ixl.com/signin/saintmatthias)



The Recommendations tab



The Suggestions tab

If there's something that's giving you trouble don't forget about this button:

Learn with an example ▾

<b><u>Eighth Grade Skills</u></b>		
Skill	Title	Completed (Smart Score 90+)
A.1	Factors	
A.4	Prime factorization	
A.5	Greatest common factor	
A.6	Least common multiple	
C.4	Add and subtract three or more integers	
C.7	Multiply and divide integers	
C.8	Evaluate numerical expressions involving integers	
E.2	Add and subtract rational numbers	
E.5	Multiply and divide rational numbers	
E.9	Evaluate numerical expressions involving rational numbers	
F.1	Understanding exponents	
N.1	Coordinate plane review	
T.1	Perimeter	
T.2	Area	
V.1	Write variable expressions: one operation	
V.13	Multiply using the distributive property	
V.15	Add and subtract like terms	
V.16	Add and subtract linear expressions	
W.2	Write an equation from words	

W.7	Solve one-step equations	
W.8	Solve two-step equations	
W.9	Solve multi-step equations	
Y.11	Write a linear equation from two points	
Z.3	Does $(x, y)$ satisfy the linear function?	
Z.7	Constant rate of change	
Z.9	Complete a table for a linear function	