

2009 SUMMER READING FOR RISING FRESHMEN

Students will read one book from this list, which may be checked out from the Decatur High School Library. In addition they will read another book of their choosing, which they may check out from the public library, purchase, or borrow from a friend, etc.

Book 1 (choose from the list and checkout from DHS library)

Acceleration by Graham McNamee

Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon

Peaches by Jodi Lynn Anderson

Hole in My Life by Jack Gantos

The First Part Last by Angela Johnson

Book 2 (your choice)

Assignment for Book 1 (to be completed on 1 large index card—4x6 or 5x8)

Keep track of one character as you get to know him or her. This must be a primary character who appears in the majority of the book.

Side One (complete while you read)

Record the title and the author of the book.

Take notes while you read.

You may want to write down the names of different characters that interest you as you meet them.

Record any details about the characters that interest you.

Side Two (complete after you finish the book)

Analyze the one primary character by recording:

1. the character's name
- 2a. two traits or qualities the character displays
- 2b. two details from the novel to support each character trait
- 3a. a change that occurs in the character over the course of the book
- 3b. your assessment of why that change in the character occurs

Assignment for Book 2 (to be completed on 1 large index card—4x6 or 5x8)

Side One (complete while you read)

Record the title and the author of the book.

Take notes while you read.

You may want to write down any ideas that come to mind as you read.

You should also write questions about ideas or topics or issues you think the author is trying to tell you about in the book.

Side Two (complete after you finish the book)

Answer the following questions:

1. What do you think is the universal truth or underlying message that the author communicates in this book?
2. Why do you think this? Explain your answer using two or three details from the book.

Your English teacher will collect and grade these assignments in the first week of school.