

EIGHTH GRADE

Due on the first day of school - Tuesday, September 3, 2019

English - Ms. Curless

Choose and read ONE (1) of these books:

- 1. Feed by M.T. Anderson "For Titus and his friends, it started out like any ordinary trip to the moon a chance to party during spring break and play with some stupid low-grav at the Ricochet Lounge. But that was before the crazy hacker caused all their feeds to malfunction, sending them to the hospital to lie around with nothing inside their heads for days. And it was before Titus met Violet, a beautiful, brainy teenage girl who has decided to fight the feed and its omnipresent ability to categorize human thoughts and desires. Following in the footsteps of George Orwell, Anthony Burgess, and Kurt Vonnegut Jr., M. T. Anderson has created a not-so-brave new world and a smart, savage satire that has captivated readers with its view of an imagined future that veers unnervingly close to the here and now."
- 2. First They Killed My Father: A Daughter of Cambodia Remembers by Loung Ung "Chronicles the brutality of the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia, from the author's forced "evacuation" of Phnom Penh in 1975 to her family's subsequent movements from town to town and eventual separation."
- 3. My Name is Not Easy by Debby Dahl Edwardson "Luke knows his l'nupiaq name is full of sounds white people can't say. He knows he'll have to leave it behind when he and his brothers are sent to boarding school hundreds of miles from their Arctic village. At Sacred Heart School things are different. Instead of family, there are students Eskimo, Indian, White who line up on different sides of the cafeteria like there's some kind of war going on. And instead of comforting words like tutu and maktak, there's English. Speaking l'nupiaq or any native language is forbidden. And Father Mullen, whose fury is like a force of nature, is ready to slap down those who disobey. Luke struggles to survive at Sacred Heart. But he's not the only one. There's smart-aleck Amiq, a daring leader if he doesn't self destruct; Chickie, blond and freckled, a different kind of outsider; and small quiet Junior, noticing everything and writing it all down. Each has their own story to tell. But once their separate stories come together, things at Sacred Heart School and in the wider world will never be the same."

For the book you chose:

- Keep a Reader Response Journal for each chapter of the book; please keep your journals in a physical notebook that you will keep for the duration of the school year. Please label each journal clearly with the book title, chapter, and date you are journaling¹. You should do multiple journals on each page double-sided is encouraged!
- Be prepared to write an in-class essay on your book at the end of the first week of school.
- You must have a copy of your chosen book through the third week of school.

What is a Reader Response Journal (RRJ)?

¹ For *Feed*, please write approximately 1 journal for every 20-30 pages (about 10 in total)

A RRJ is a way for readers to actively chronicle their reactions or thoughts while reading a text. **A RRJ is not a summary of the chapter!** Here are some ideas to get you started on your journals:

- ✓ Examine how the author uses examples to illustrate a point.
- ✓ Identify a chapter where the character makes an important discovery.
- ✓ Identify favorite chapters; identify confusing ones. Explain your reason.
- ✓ Formulate questions about the reading that you want to ask in class.
- ✓ Explore and reflect on similar experiences or insights that you have had.
- ✓ Write about specific experiences of your own or those of others that relate to the chapter. You may include experiences that support or contradict what the author has written.
- ✓ Discuss ideas with which you agree or disagree. Identify chapters to which you have a strong reaction (either positive or negative).
- ✓ Discuss ideas or concepts that you have learned.
- ✓ Again: Do not summarize the chapters! Journals that are just summary will receive an 80%.

8th Grade English Supply List:

3 ring binder just for English 3-hole pocket folder (not an insert) Binder divider tabs

Paper Index cards Highlighters

Pencil sharpener Three-ring binder hole punch

Journal for reader response journals (should be used over the summer)