



BRENTWOOD ACADEMY

Summer Reading List 2021: 8th Grade English (Standard and Honors)

A Rationale for Summer Reading

- To generate interest and pleasure in reading that enriches the educational experience
- To use time not available during the school year to read classics that expand cultural literacy
- To prepare for thoughtful discussion and writing beginning the first day of class
- To encourage a lifelong love of reading

Required Text

- *Ender's Game*

Orson Scott Card

Andrew "Ender" Wiggin, a six-year-old boy genius, is selected by the world governments to train, along with other exceptional children, to fight against the greatest threat the Earth has ever known.

Honors Choice Texts (select two to read)

- *The Hiding Place*

Corrie Ten Boom

This riveting story tells how a middle-aged Dutch watchmaker became a heroine of the Resistance, a survivor of Hitler's death camps, and one of the most remarkable evangelists of the twentieth century.

- *And Then There Were None*

Agatha Christie

10 strangers are invited to a remote island by a secretive millionaire in this classic murder mystery. Each stranger becomes a victim, one by one, and no one is above suspicion.

- *The Chosen*

Chaim Potok

A moving story set in Brooklyn, New York, in the 1940s about an unlikely friendship between two Jewish boys that begins with a simple baseball game.

- *The Lord of the Rings (any book in trilogy)*

J.R.R. Tolkien

The Lord of the Rings trilogy tells of the great quest of Frodo Baggins (nephew of Bilbo) and the rest of the fellowship of the Ring. Students can read any book in the trilogy if they have previously read one in the series; however, if someone has read only *The Hobbit*, he/she should read *The Fellowship of the Ring*.

Standard Choice Texts (select one to read)

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General Instructions/Evaluations

1. *Ender's Game* is the starting point for eighth grade literature-it is the required reading for both Standard and Honors sections.
2. Students will be grouped by the choice book(s) that they have read. The specific evaluation method(s) will be discussed the first day of class.
3. Students should have all summer reading books the first day of class.
4. Although not required for summer reading, annotation (highlighting, margin notes, summaries) of the reading is a beneficial tool for comprehension, retention, and application.

Please remember the BA English Department policy:

Do not consult internet novel guides, any other electronic or printed summaries, or movies; read the texts themselves.