

Hazlet Middle School  
English Department

Summer Reading Assignment  
Entering Grades 7 and 8

May 2015

To Parents/Guardians and Students:

The purpose of the HMS summer reading assignment is to encourage students to enjoy quality literature and to continue to develop reading skills and strategies that they have learned during the school year. Students will need to select one title from the enclosed list and acquire the book from the public library, a bookstore such as Barnes and Noble, or an e-book source. These books were chosen by teachers based on reading levels and interests of students in each grade level. Please be aware that some of the books are contemporary young adult texts that may contain mature content or language. After they read, students are to view the film version of the book and complete the “Book and Movie Comparison/Contrast Guide” and the “Thinking Critically About a Movie Adaptation,” enclosed. Parents should review their children’s choices and complete the form below to indicate receipt of the assignment. Please return the signed form to your child’s current English/Literature teacher by June 8th.

Students are expected to turn in their completed work on September 8<sup>th</sup>. The assignments will be graded and will count toward students’ first marking period grades. We suggest that students allow ample time to read their chosen books, view the films, and complete their written assignments so that they are prepared for a successful beginning to the new school year.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child’s current English/Literature teacher or Suzanne Capraro, English Supervisor, at [scapraro@hazlet.org](mailto:scapraro@hazlet.org) or 732-264-8401, ext. 1008. We hope that you have an enjoyable summer and wish you Happy Reading!

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*Please complete and return the bottom portion of this form to your child’s current Eng/Lit teacher by June 8, 2015.*

I have reviewed the enclosed materials regarding the summer reading assignment. I understand that the reading and assignment are to be completed over the summer and will be turned in to the English/Literature teacher on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

Name of student (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of student: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade level in 2015-2016: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent/guardian (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Task:**

Compare and contrast a selected book to the movie version.

**Directions:**

Select one book to read from the attached list. Read the book and then watch the movie version of the selection.

Complete the “Book and Movie Comparison /Contrast Guide.” Use the graphic organizer to identify three ways the book and movie are similar and three ways they are different for each category listed. Answer in complete sentences, and cite details from the book and the movie.

Complete the “Thinking Critically About a Movie Adaptation.” Use this graphic organizer citing evidence from the book and movie to support your opinion.

You may use the enclosed templates for your work or create your own in a notebook or in a word processing document. In addition, the template is available on the Hazlet Township Public Schools website in MSWord, if you would like to complete it electronically. If you do so, be sure to print out your work to hand in to your teacher.

**Due Date:**

The assignment is due the on September 8, 2015.

**Students entering Grade 7 are to select from the following list:**

Brashares, Ann. *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* -- Movie: *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* (PG)

Some friends just fit together. Once there was a pair of pants. Just an ordinary pair of jeans. But these pants, the Traveling Pants, went on to do great things. This is the story of the four friends—Lena, Tibby, Bridget, and Carmen—who made it possible.

Collins, Suzanne. *The Hunger Games* -- Movie: *The Hunger Games* (PG-13)

In the ruins of a place once known as North America lies the nation of Panem, a shining Capitol surrounded by twelve outlying districts. Long ago the districts waged war on the Capitol and were defeated. As part of the surrender terms, each district agreed to send one boy and one girl to appear in an annual televised event called, "The Hunger Games," a fight to the death on live TV. Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen, who lives alone with her mother and younger sister, regards it as a death sentence when she is forced to represent her district in the Games. The terrain, rules, and level of audience participation may change but one thing is constant: kill or be killed.

Dashnet, James. *The Maze Runner* -- Movie: *The Maze Runner* (PG-13)

*If you ain't scared, you ain't human.* When Thomas wakes up in the lift, the only thing he can remember is his name. He's surrounded by strangers—boys whose memories are also gone. *Nice to meet ya, shank. Welcome to the Glade.* Outside the towering stone walls that surround the Glade is a limitless, ever-changing maze. It's the only way out—and no one's ever made it through alive. *Everything is going to change.* Then a girl arrives. The first girl ever. And the message she delivers is terrifying. Remember. Survive. Run.

Hiaasen, Carl. *Hoot* -- Movie: *Hoot* (PG)

Roy Eberhardt is the new kid--again. This time around it's Trace Middle School in humid Coconut Grove, Florida. But it's still the same old routine: table by himself at lunch, no real friends, and thick-headed bullies like Dana Matherson pushing him around. But if it wasn't for Dana Matherson mashing his face against the school bus window that one day, he might never have seen the tow-headed running boy. And if he had never seen the running boy, he might never have met tall, tough, bully-beating Beatrice. And if he had never met Beatrice, he might never have discovered the burrowing owls living in the lot on the corner of East Oriole Avenue. And if he had never discovered the owls, he probably would have missed out on the adventure of a lifetime. Apparently, bullies do serve a greater purpose in the scope of the universe. Because if it wasn't for Dana Matherson...

Klause, Annette Curtis. *Blood and Chocolate* -- Movie: *Blood and Chocolate* (PG-13)

Vivian Gandillon relishes the change, the sweet, fierce ache that carries her from girl to wolf. At sixteen, she is beautiful and strong, and all the young wolves are on her tail. But Vivian still grieves for her dead father; her pack remains leaderless and in disarray, and she feels lost in the suburbs of Maryland. She longs for a normal life. But what is normal for a werewolf? Then Vivian falls in love with a human, a meat-boy. Aiden is kind and gentle, a welcome relief from the squabbling pack. He's fascinated by magic, and Vivian longs to reveal herself to him. Surely he would understand her and delight in the wonder of her dual nature, not fear her as an ordinary human would. Vivian's divided loyalties are strained further when a brutal murder threatens to expose the pack. Moving between two worlds, she does not seem to belong in either. What is she really--human or beast? Which tastes sweeter--blood or chocolate?

Levine, Gail Carson. *Ella Enchanted* -- Movie: *Ella Enchanted* (PG)

How can a fairy's blessing be such a curse? At her birth, Ella of Frell was given a foolish fairy's gift—the "gift" of obedience. Ella must obey any order given to her, whether it's hopping on one foot for a day or chopping off her own head! But strong-willed Ella does not tamely accept her fate. She goes on a quest, encountering ogres, giants, wicked stepsisters, fairy godmothers, and handsome princes, determined to break the curse—and live happily ever after.

Roth, Veronica. *Divergent* -- Movie: *Divergent* (PG-13)

*One choice can transform you.* Beatrice Prior's society is divided into five factions—Candor (the honest), Abnegation (the selfless), Dauntless (the brave), Amity (the peaceful), and Erudite (the intelligent). Beatrice must choose between staying with her Abnegation family and transferring factions. Her choice will shock her community and herself. But the newly christened Tris also has a secret, one she's determined to keep hidden, because in this world, *what makes you different makes you dangerous.*

Rowling, J.K. *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* -- Movie: *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* (PG)

Harry Potter has no idea how famous he is. That's because he's being raised by his miserable aunt and uncle who are terrified Harry will learn that he's really a wizard, just as his parents were. But everything changes when Harry is summoned to attend an infamous school for wizards, and he begins to discover some clues about his illustrious birthright. From the surprising way he is greeted by a lovable giant, to the unique curriculum and colorful faculty at his unusual school, Harry finds himself drawn deep inside a mystical world he never knew existed and closer to his own noble destiny.

Selznick, Brian. *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* -- Movie: *Hugo* (PG)

Orphan, clock keeper, and thief, Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where his survival depends on secrets and anonymity. But when his world suddenly interlocks with an eccentric, bookish girl and a bitter old man who runs a toy booth in the station, Hugo's undercover life, and his most precious secret, are put in jeopardy. A cryptic drawing, a treasured notebook, a stolen key, a mechanical man, and a hidden message from Hugo's dead father form the backbone of this intricate, tender, and spellbinding mystery.

**Students entering Grade 8 are to select from the following list:**

Asimov, Isaac. *I, Robot* -- Movie: *I, Robot* (PG-13)

Asimov chronicles the development of the robot through a series of interlinked stories: from its primitive origins in the present to its ultimate perfection in the not-so-distant future--a future in which humanity itself may be rendered obsolete. Here are stories of robots gone mad, of mind-read robots, and robots with a sense of humor. Of robot politicians, and robots who secretly run the world--all told with the dramatic blend of science fact and science fiction that has become Asimov's trademark.

Brashares, Anne. *The Second Summer of the Sisterhood* -- Movie: *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2* (PG-13)

Like the summer before, Carmen, Bridget, Tibby, and Lena share their individual adventures with the Pants collective, creating an engaging, kaleidoscopic narrative of four voices. This summer, Tibby attends a film program in Virginia and Bridget (Bee), whose mother has died, impulsively jets off to Alabama to get reacquainted with her estranged grandmother. Lovely Lena tries to protect herself from the heartbreak of loving her long-distance Greek god boyfriend Kostos, and Carmen deals (poorly) with her mother dating again and having the nerve to borrow the Pants!

Collins, Suzanne. *Catching Fire* -- Movie: *The Hunger Games: Catching Fire* (PG-13)

Against all odds, Katniss Everdeen has won the annual Hunger Games with fellow district tribute Peeta Mellark. But it was a victory won by defiance of the Capitol and their harsh rules. Katniss and Peeta should be happy. After all, they have just won for themselves and their families a life of safety and plenty. But there are rumors of rebellion among the subjects, and Katniss and Peeta, to their horror, are the faces of that rebellion. The Capitol is angry. The Capitol wants revenge.

Flinn, Alex. *Beastly* -- Movie: *Beastly* (PG-13)

I am a beast. A beast! Not quite wolf or bear, gorilla or dog but a horrible new creature who walks upright. I am a monster. You think I'm talking fairy tales? No way. The place is New York City. The time is now. It's no deformity, no disease. And I'll stay this way forever—ruined—unless I can break the spell. Yes, the spell, the one the witch in my English class cast on me. Why did she turn me into a beast who hides by day and prowls by night? I'll tell you. I'll tell you how I used to be Kyle Kingsbury, the guy you wished you were, with money, perfect looks, and the perfect life. And then, I'll tell you how I became perfectly . . . beastly.

Hinton, S.E. *Tex* -- Movie: *Tex* (PG)

Easygoing and reckless, Tex, likes everyone and everything, especially his horse, Negrito, and Johnny Collins' blue-eyed sister, Jamie. Life with his older brother, Mason, would be just about perfect if only he would stop complaining about Pop, who hasn't been home in five months. While Mason worries about paying the bills and getting a basketball scholarship--his ticket out of Oklahoma--Tex just seems to attract trouble. When everything seems to be falling apart, how can Tex find a way to keep things together?

Horowitz, Anthony. *Stormbreaker* -- Movie: *Alex Rider: Operation Stormbreaker* (PG)

When his guardian and uncle, Ian, is mysteriously killed, Alex discovers that his uncle was not the bank vice-president he purported to be, but rather a spy for the British government. Now the government wants Alex to take over his uncle's mission: investigating Sayle Enterprises, the makers of a revolutionary computer called Stormbreaker. The company's head plans to donate one to every secondary school in England, but his dealings with unfriendly countries and Ian Rider's murder have brought him under suspicion. Posing as a teenage computer whiz who's won a Stormbreaker promotional contest, Alex enters the factory and immediately finds clues from his uncle.

**Meyer, Stephanie.** *Twilight* -- Movie: *Twilight* (PG-13)

Isabella Swan's move to Forks, a small, perpetually rainy town in Washington, could have been the most boring move she ever made. But once she meets the mysterious and alluring Edward Cullen, Isabella's life takes a thrilling and terrifying turn. Up until now, Edward has managed to keep his vampire identity a secret in the small community he lives in, but now nobody is safe, especially Isabella, the person Edward holds most dear. The lovers find themselves balanced precariously on the point of a knife-between desire and danger. Deeply romantic and extraordinarily suspenseful, *Twilight* captures the struggle between defying our instincts and satisfying our desires. This is a love story with bite.

**Paolini, Christopher.** *Eragon* -- Movie: *Eragon* (PG)

Fifteen-year-old Eragon believes that he is merely a poor farm boy—until his destiny as a Dragon Rider is revealed. Gifted with only an ancient sword, a loyal dragon, and sage advice from an old storyteller, Eragon is soon swept into a dangerous tapestry of magic, glory, and power. Now his choices could save—or destroy—the Empire.

**Roth, Veronica.** *Insurgent* -- Movie: *Insurgent* (PG-13)

As war surges in the factions of dystopian Chicago all around her, Tris attempts to save those she loves—and herself—while grappling with haunting questions of grief and forgiveness, identity and loyalty, politics and love.

**Book and Movie Comparison/Contrast Guide**

*Directions: Identify at least three ways the book and the movie are similar and three ways they are different for the setting, characters, plot, and resolution. Answer in complete sentences and cite evidence from the book and the movie.*

**Book Title:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Movie Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

Similarities	Differences
<b>Setting:</b>	<b>Setting:</b>
<b>Characters:</b>	<b>Characters:</b>

**Book and Movie Comparison/Contrast Guide (p. 2)**

<b>Similarities</b>	<b>Differences</b>
<b>Plot Events:</b>	<b>Plot Events:</b>
<b>Resolution:</b>	<b>Resolution:</b>



**Thinking Critically About a Movie Adaptation**

*Directions: Respond to the following prompts with your opinion, citing evidence from the movie and the book.*

<p>I am glad the movie kept these things the same . . .</p>	<p>I wish the movie would have changed these things . . .</p>
<p>I wish the movie hadn't changed these things . . .</p>	<p>I am glad the movie changed these things . . .</p>

**Thinking Critically About a Movie Adaptation (p. 2)**

The part in the movie I like best is . . .

The part in the book I like best is . . .

My overall opinion of the movie adaptation of the book is . . .

I feel this way about the movie adaptation because . . .