

**Students Entering Grade 8  
Integrated Language Arts  
Summer Reading Assignment**

**Directions:**

1. Read *Drums, Girls & Dangerous Pie* by Jordan Sonnenblick. Please be prepared to take a test on this novel in September. Your summer reading assignment for this book is to write a literary analysis essay. You have three choices. Please choose only one. Your essay must be typed in MLA format. The choices are as follows:

- **Why does the author title the novel *Drums, Girls & Dangerous Pie*? What is the significance of the title? Do you think the title is appropriate for the novel? Why or why not? Use text evidence from the novel to support your response. Your essay should be five paragraphs and include a thesis, topics, and quotes for all the body paragraphs.**
- **We see many instances of sacrifice in the novel. What are some of the sacrifices? What is the biggest sacrifice a character makes? Why? Use text evidence from the novel to support your response. Write a five paragraph essay with thesis, topics, and quotes for all the body paragraphs.**
- **Does the novel contribute to your understanding of the struggles families face when trying to overcome cancer? Or does it not sufficiently provide a realistic narrative of this particular conflict? Why or why not? Use text evidence from the novel to support your response. Write a five paragraph essay with thesis, topics, and quotes for all the body paragraphs.**

**Choose another book to read. Be prepared to complete a literary element chart in class.**

Title	Author	Genre
<i>The War That Saved My Life Or The War I Finally Won</i>	Kimberly Brubaker Bradley	Historical Fiction
<i>Fire from the Rock</i>	Sharon Draper	Historical Fiction
<i>Ok For Now</i>	Gary D. Schmidt	Realistic Fiction
<i>Gathering Blue or Messenger</i>	Lois Lowry	Dystopian/Science Fiction
<i>White Fang</i>	Jack London	Classic/Adventure

<i>Peace Locomotion</i>	Jacqueline Woodson	Poetry/Realistic Fiction
<i>I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World (Young Readers Edition)</i>	Malala Yousafzai and Patricia McCormick	Nonfiction
<i>Yellow Star</i>	Jennifer Roy	Nonfiction/Poetry
<i>Ground Zero</i>	Alan Gratz	Historical Fiction