

## Independent Reading Assignment

Becoming a skilled reader is an important key to your future success. The best way to improve your reading skills is to read for pleasure. You will have the opportunity to do that this year in English class.

**What?:** You will select a book, fiction or non-fiction, of at least 200 pages to read over the course of the next several weeks. Before the end of the nine-weeks you must give a book talk.

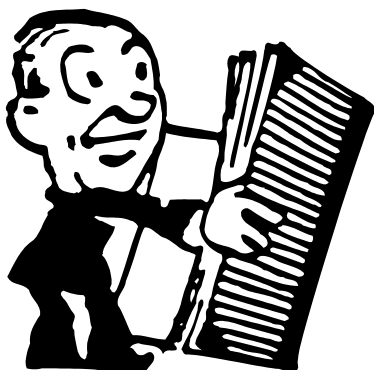
**What is a book talk?** A book talk is an oral presentation about your book—What is it about? Would you recommend it to others? What was the author's style like? Did you like the book? Why? Book talks can be given during any reading workshop day, and there will be a special day dedicated to giving book talks towards the end of the nine-weeks. **You must have your book with you to give a book talk.**

**When?:** You must give your book talk on or before the end of the nine weeks. As soon as you finish reading the book you can give your book talk. You do not have to wait until the due date. I will remind you of the due date as it approaches.

**How Much?:** This assignment counts as a **50 Point Summative Assessment**. You have over 8 weeks to finish reading your books and give the book talk. That is plenty of time.

### Remember:

- The book you choose must be at a high school reading level or higher (See Mrs. McPherson if you are unsure).
- You may read a book that has been made into a movie, **but** you must tell Mrs. McPherson at the beginning of the nine weeks if that is what you are going to do.
- I have lists of great books if you don't know what you want to read.
- Books may be obtained from any source—the school library, the public library, home, borrowed from a friend, a purchased book, and so on. There are also books in the classroom that you can borrow.
- **Bring your book to class everyday!** If you finish your work early, you should read your book.



**Can I get Extra Credit?** Yes—Read and do a book talk over more than one book in a nine-weeks, or read a book of exceptional length and/or difficulty. Ask Mrs. McPherson to find out more.

I hope you enjoy this chance to explore your interests, elevate your vocabulary, and improve your reading fluency. This is an opportunity to experience reading in a whole new way—take advantage.