



Dear 8th grade parents,

Immaculate Conception School is committed to helping students develop a love of reading and improve their reading comprehension skills. Current research on summer reading tells us that students should read during the summer to maintain independent reading levels. The intention of the summer reading expectation at ICS is to foster the continued application of the valuable reading strategies taught and developed over the course of the school year. Now, more than ever, an emphasis on reading will help your child prepare for the upcoming school year.

Summer Reading Expectations

I. Choice Novel

On page 3 of this PDF, a list of choice reading material from grades 6-8 is provided. Please select the choice reading material from this list. This novel will be used at the beginning of the school year. Students will present their choice novels to the class in a presentation that they will create within the first two weeks of school **as a graded assignment for oral language and reading comprehension**.

The ELA department also encourages students to read as many books as they would like throughout the summer. Parents can use www.commonensemedia.org or <https://clubs.scholastic.com> to determine appropriateness levels for their children. We encourage parents to engage their students in conversations about their reading!

II. Required All-Grade Novel

In addition to one choice novel, the entire grade will read one assigned non-fiction book. These novels can be found at your local library, Amazon, or local bookstores.

There will be a discussion on this text **graded for reading comprehension and oral language**.

- The assigned reading for 8th grade is *The Little Book of Talent: 52 Tips for Improving Your Skills* by Daniel Coyle
ISBN-13: 978-0345530257

III. IXL Practice

Families should refer to the IXL PDF for Grade 8. Students will use a log to record their progress. Students should work to 85% mastery or better. The **mastery** on IXL will be awarded up to **30 points towards the student's grammar grade** as completed in compliance with the listed IXL skills.

Wishing you a wonderful summer!

-The ICS middle school language arts department



2022-2023 In-school ELA Reading Material

The novels listed below will be read in ELA classes. Please reserve the magic of these reading experiences for our instructional time together.

8th Grade Novels

	Trimester One	Trimester Two	Trimester Three
Standard	<i>The Five People You Meet in Heaven</i> by Mitch Albom	<i>The Outsiders</i> by S. E. Hinton	<i>The Boy on the Wooden Box</i> by Leon Leyson



Choice Novels

Please select one choice novel from the following list. Choices include subcategories of classics, contemporary, and nonfiction.

	6-8 Standard-Level Choice Novels
Contemporary	<i>Catherine Called Birdy</i> by Karen Cushman <i>An Elephant in the Garden</i> by Mark Murpуро <i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i> by Jacqueline Woodsen <i>Rose Under Fire</i> by Elizabeth Wein <i>Feathers</i> by Jacqueline Woodsen <i>The Penderwicks</i> by Jeanne Birdsall <i>Behind the Bedroom Wall</i> by Laura E. Williams <i>Prisoner B- 3087</i> by Alan Gratz <i>Greenglass House</i> by Kate Milford <i>Fever 1793</i> by Laurie Halse Anderson <i>The Kneebone Boy</i> by Ellen Potter <i>Charlie and Me: 421 Miles from Home</i> by Mark Lowery <i>The Girl Who Drank the Moon</i> by Kelly Barnhill
Classics	<i>Tuck Everlasting</i> by Natalie Babbitt <i>Anne of Green Gables</i> by L. M. Montgomery <i>Murder on the Orient Express</i> by Agatha Christie <i>Peter Pan</i> by J. M. Barrie <i>The Secret Garden</i> by Frances Hodgson Burnett <i>Lord of the Flies</i> by William Golding
Nonfiction	<i>A Long Walk to Water</i> by Linda Sue Park <i>Chasing Lincoln's Killer: The Search for John Wilkes Booth</i> by James L. Swanson <i>The Upstairs Room</i> by Johanna Reiss (autobiography) <i>Phineas Gage: A Gruesome But True Story about Brain Science</i> by John Fleischman



ELA IXL Assignment Summer 2022

Directions for Rising 8th Grade Students in Standard ELA

1. Be sure to log-on to <https://www.ixl.com/> using the username and password provided to you by ICS.
2. As a student in **Standard 8th grade ELA class**, you will complete the **12 required skills** listed below at the grade level you are leaving (**7th**) and **three skills** at the one you are entering (**8th**). Therefore, as a rising 8th grader, you will complete 15 skills this summer.
3. In order to receive credit, summer work must occur on or after June 13th, 2022 and be completed by August 28th, 2022. This allows two months to complete the requirements for active practice.
4. We recommend that skills are practiced **throughout the summer** rather than all at once to maintain concept mastery.
5. Parents should sign the bottom of this form to indicate that your child has completed his/her summer work.
6. Please complete this checklist of required skills indicating the percentage achieved and the date each skill is completed. Students are asked to achieve a **minimum of 85% mastery** for each of the assigned skills.
7. IXL summer work is worth 30 points if each of the assigned 15 skills is completed to 85% mastery. Points will be deducted if all skills are not completed or 85% mastery is not achieved.
8. You are welcome to work on additional skills if you would like, however, these will not be graded.
9. **Please return this form to your ELA teacher on the first day of school, Monday, August 29th, 2022.**
10. If you have any questions regarding ELA summer work, please contact arowan@theimmaculate.org

Please be aware the skill numbers are sometimes adjusted by IXL.com over the summer. Please work on the SKILLS that match the description.

IXL Skills	Percentage	Date Completed
7A1: Determine the main idea		
7G1: Read and understand informational passages		
7I2: Read graphic organizers		
7N3: Use the correct frequently confused word		
7V2: Determine the meaning of words using synonyms in context		
7Y2: Identify the complete subject or complete predicate of a sentence		
7Y3: Identify the simple subject or simple predicate of a sentence		
7Y7: Is it a complete sentence, a fragment, or a run-on?		
7Z3: Identify the dependent and independent clause		
7MM2: Commas with compound and complex sentences		
7MM5: Commas review		
7DD1: Identify transitive and intransitive verbs		
8P1: Recognize the parts of a Works Cited entry		
8P2: Use in-text citations (MLA 8th edition)		
8P3: Identify plagiarism		