**8th grade Language Arts**

**Independent Reading List – “Challenges”**

* **Students must read one of these titles each semester as part of the reading requirement. It will NOT be included in the 900 pages required (450 pages per quarter).**
* **You will also be required to complete one of the book report options.**
* **Students planning to attend a 4-year college or university should focus their choices on the bolded titles.**

**-Titles with a computer icon (🖳) are available through the Libraries of Stevens County.**

**-Titles with a book icon (🕮) are available in the Jenkins Jr./Sr. High School library.**

**-Titles with a pencil icon (![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]())are available in Ms. Kernan’s Classroom Library. You must check them out prior to grabbing them off of the shelf.**

Lexile measures are one way to determine the text complexity of a book. Text complexity implies how challenging material is for a student at his/her grade level. A book’s Lexile Measure is one way to evaluate text complexity as it gives a number to the degree with which vocabulary and sentence structure make a text understandable to the reader. Books with a lower Lexile score should not be discounted as they often consider complex themes. The Lexile Measure of a book can help direct students in their selection of reading materials. Ideally, students will choose a variety of titles for their self-selected reading.

**Books considered at the 8th grade reading level have a Lexile measure of 1010L to 1185L.**

**A**

Adams, Douglas 🖳*The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy*

Adams, Richard **🕮**🖳Watership Down (880L)

**Alcott, Louisa May 🕮**🖳***Little Women (1000L)***

Anderson, Laurie Halse **🕮***Catalyst* (high interest! – 580L); 🖳**🕮***Speak (690L),* **🕮***Twisted (high interest – 680L);* 🖳*Wintergirls (730L);*

Angelou, Maya **🕮**🖳*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings (1330L)*

**B**

Boyne, John **🕮**🖳![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]()*The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* (1080L)

Brashares, Ann 🖳*3 Willows: The Sisterhood Continues* (700L)

**Brontë, Charlotte 🕮**🖳![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]() ***Jane Eyre (890L)***

**C**

Cabot, Meg **🕮**🖳*All American Girl* (880L)

Card, Orson Scott **🕮**🖳*Ender’s Game* (The Ender Quintet #1) (780L)

Carroll, Lewis 🖳*Alice in Wonderland* (980L)

**Cisneros, Sandra** 🖳***The House on Mango Street (870L)***

Cohn, Rachel *Gingerbread* (960L)

Collodi, Carlo 🖳*Pinocchio* (840L)

Cooper, James Fenimore 🖳*The Last of the Mohicans: A Narrative of 1757* (930L)

Cormier, Robert **🕮***The Chocolate War (820L)*

Crane, Stephen **🕮**🖳*The Red Badge of Courage* (890L)

Creech, Sharon **🕮**🖳![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]()*Walk Two Moons* (770L)

**D**

Dessen, Sarah **🕮**🖳*Along for the Ride* (750L); 🖳*Dreamland: a novel (920L);* **🕮**🖳*Just Listen (810L);* **🕮** *Keeping the Moon (high interest! – 650L);* **🕮**🖳*Lock and Key (840L);* **🕮***Someone Like You (820L); That Summer (1020L);* **🕮**🖳*The Truth About Forever (840L);* **🕮** *This Lullaby (820L);* **🕮**🖳*What Happened to Goodbye (760L)*

Deuker, Carl **🕮***Heart of a Champion* (650L)

**Dickens, Charles** 🖳***David Copperfield (1070L);* 🕮**🖳***Oliver Twist (970L)***

Draper, Sharon M.**🕮**🖳*Out of my Mind* (700L)

**E**

Earley, Tony 🖳*Jim the Boy* (800L); 🖳*The Blue Star* (805L)

**F**

Frank, Anne **🕮**🖳![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]()*The Diary of a Young Girl* (1080L)

Friend, Natasha *Perfect* (590L); *Lush* (550L)

**G**

Gaiman, Neil **🕮**🖳*The Graveyard Book (820L)*

George, Jean Craighead **🕮**🖳![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]()*My Side of the Mountain* (810L)

Giles, Gail *Right Behind You* (590L)

**Gipson, Fred 🕮**🖳***Old Yeller (910L)***

**H**

Haddix, Margaret Peterson *Don’t You Dare Read This, Mrs. Dunphrey* (990L)

Hamilton, Virginia **🕮**🖳*The House of Dies Drear* (670L)

Headley, Justina Chen**🕮***North of Beautiful (850L)*

**Hinton, S.E. 🕮**🖳![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]()***The Outsiders (750L);* 🕮*That was Then, This is Now (780L)***

**I**

**J**

**K**

Kipling, Rudyard **🕮***Captains Courageous* (850L); **🕮** 🖳*The Jungle Book* (1020L)

Klass, David **🕮***You Don’t Know Me* (970L)

**Knowles, John 🕮**🖳***A Separate Peace* (1110L)**

**L**

LaCour, Nina *Hold Still* (770L)

L’Engle, Madeleine **🕮**🖳*A Wrinkle in Time* (740L)

Lewis, C.S. **🕮**🖳*The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* (940L)

Lowry, Lois **🕮**🖳*Gathering Blue* (The Giver #2 – 680L); **🕮**🖳*Messenger* (The Giver #3 – 720L); 🖳![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]() Number the Stars (670L)

Lupica, Mike **🕮**🖳![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]()*Heat* (940L)

**M**

Martinez, Victor *Parrot in the Oven: Mi Vida: A Novel* (1000L)

Mazer, Harry **🕮***The Last Mission* (620L)

Mazzeo, Tilar ![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]() Irena’s Children (1000L)

McCormick, Patricia **🕮**🖳*Cut* (660L); 🖳*Sold* (820L)

Marchetta, Melina *Jellicoe Road* (820L); 🖳*Saving Francesca* (770L)

Moody, Ralph 🖳*Little Britches: Father and I were Ranchers* (1090L); 🖳*Man of the* *Family* (980L); 🖳*The Home Ranch* (1050L)

Murdock, Catherine Gilbert🖳*Dairy Queen (990L – ebook)*

Myers, Walter Dean **🕮**🖳![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]()*Monster* (670L)

**N**

Nelson, Jandy 🖳*I’ll Give You the Sun* (high interest! – 740L)

**O**

Oates, Joyce Carol 🖳*Freaky Green Eyes* (810L)

O’Dell, Scott **🕮**🖳*Island of the Blue Dolphins* (1000L)

Orwell, George *1984* (1090L)

**P**

Palacio, R.J. **🕮**🖳![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]()*Wonder* (790L)

Paulsen, Gary **🕮**![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]() Brian’s Winter (1140L)

Paulsen, Gary **🕮**🖳![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]()*Hatchet* (1020L) \*only one person per semester

Paterson, Katherine **🕮**🖳*Bridge to Terabithia* (810L)

Pelzer, Dave **🕮**🖳*A Child Called “It”* (850L)

Pelzer, Richard **🕮** *A Brother’s Journey*

Peters, Julie Anne *Luna* (500L)

Picoult, Jodi 🖳*My Sister’s Keeper: a novel* (840L)

Plum-Ucci, Carol *What Happened to Lani Garner* (720L)

Pullman, Philip **🕮**🖳![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]()*The Golden Compass* (930L)

Pyle, Howard 🖳*The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood of Great Renown in Nottinghamshire* (900L)

**Q**

**R**

Rawls, Wilson **🕮**🖳![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]()*Where the Red Fern Grows* (700L)

*Runyon, Brent The Burn Journals (690L)*

**S**

**Salinger, J. D. 🕮**🖳***Catcher in the Rye (790L)***

Salisbury, Graham *Blue Skin of the Sea* (810L)

*Shusterman, Neal Unwind (high interest! – 740L)*

Sevareid, Eric 🖳*Canoeing with the Cree*

**Smith, Betty 🕮*A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* (810L)**

Sonnenblick, Jordan *Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie* (940L)

**Steinbeck, John 🕮*The Red Pony* (810L)**

**Stevenson, Robert Louis** 🖳***Treasure Island* (1100L)**

Supplee, Suzanne **🕮**🖳*Artichoke’s Heart* (780L)

Sutcliff, Rosemary *The Sword and the Circle: King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table* (1210L)

**T**

Taylor, Theodore **🕮**![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]()*The Cay* (860L)

Tolkein, J.R.R. **🕮**🖳![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]()*The Hobbit* (1000L); **🕮**🖳*The Fellowship of the Ring* (860L); **🕮**🖳*The Two Towers* (810L)

**Twain, Mark** 🖳![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]()***The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (740L)**

**V**

Van Draanen, Wendelin 🖳*Flipped* (720L)

Voigt, Cynthia**🕮**🖳*Homecoming* (630L)

**W**

Walls, Jeannette **🕮**🖳![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]() *The Glass Castle: a memoir* (non-fiction) (1010L)

Werlin, Nancy **🕮**🖳*The Rules of Survival* (660L)

**Wiesel, Elie 🕮**🖳![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]()***Night* (590L)**

Williams, Carol Lynch *The Chosen One* (high interest! – 480L)

Woodson, Jacqueline **🕮***If You Come Softly* (high interest! – 570L)

**Y**

**Z**

Zarr, Sara **🕮***Sweethearts* (720L)

Zevin, Gabrielle **🕮**🖳*Elsewhere* (720L); **🕮** 🖳*Memoirs of a Teenage Amnesiac* (720L)

Zullo, Allan ![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]()*We Fought Back: Teen Resisters of the Holocaust (1090L);*

 *![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]() Prisoner B-3087 (760L); ![C:\Users\DefaultUser\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\VYEYT6QG\pencilicon[1].png]() Projekt 1065 (780L)*

Zusak, Markus 🖳*The Book Thief* (730L)