



Greetings Future 7th Grade IB Students,

You may choose **ONE** of the novels listed below to read this summer followed by selecting **ONE** of the below activities. Your completed activity should be printed and turned into Mrs. Maxwell (Jay) by 3:10 p.m. on August 8th, 2025. Please note: This will be taken as a grade. No AI should be used to complete this project.

- All IB students have the option to choose **ONE** book from the following reading list:

- *Buried Onions* by Gary Soto
- *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* by Elizabeth George Speare
- *Kon-Tiki* by Thor Heyerdahl
- *The Dark is Rising* by Susan Cooper
- *Sister Carrie* by Theodore Dreiser
- *A Northern Light* by Jennifer Donnelly
- *Additional Options:*
 - *Harris and Me* by Gary Paulsen
 - *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen
 - *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* by Ransom Riggs

If you are interested in reading a different book that is not on this list, please email the book name and title for approval.

- All IB students may select **ONE** of the following writing prompts:

Option 1: Narrative – Alternate Ending

- ⌞ Write a new final chapter for the book. Your alternate ending should reflect the tone, style, and characterization used in the original novel. Include:
 - A strong opening and closing
 - Accurate character voices
 - A believable, imaginative twist

Option 2: Informational Essay – Thematic Analysis

- ⌞ Write an informational essay explaining how your book supports a major theme such as bold actions, courage, identity, or injustice. Be sure to:
 - Introduce the theme clearly



- Use specific examples and quotations
- Organize your ideas clearly with transitions
- Minimum: 5 well-developed paragraphs

Option 3: Argumentative Essay – Most Impactful Event

- ⌘ Argue which single event had the greatest impact on the storyline. Support your claim with:
 - A clear thesis statement
 - At least three strong pieces of text evidence
 - Counterclaim and rebuttal paragraph
 - Minimum: 5 paragraphs

Creative & Media-Based Options

Option 4: Summer Reflection Podcast

- ⌘ Create a 2–3 minute podcast episode reflecting on the book you read. You can record using your Chromebook or phone. Include:
 - A **podcast name** and creative **title** for your episode
 - **Intro music** and **outro music** (school-appropriate and royalty-free)
 - A **script** or outline that covers:
 - Your name and book title
 - A summary of the book
 - One major takeaway or message you connected with
 - A moment or quote that stood out to you
 - Personal reflection: What did this book teach you, challenge you to think about, or make you feel?
 - Use a clear, confident voice
- ⌘ **Optional:** Upload your podcast to a Google Slide or Canva template with visuals.

Option 5: Visual Timeline or Comic Strip

- ⌘ Design a timeline or comic strip illustrating at least **6 major events** in the story. Include:
 - Creative drawings or digital designs
 - Captions and speech/thought bubbles for each event
 - Emotional tone (humor, tension, sadness, etc.)
 - Neatness and effort: color, organization, and clarity
- ⌘ Write a full summary explain the comic strip



Option 6: Book Trailer Video

- ✎ Create a 90-second movie trailer that captures the tone, themes, and major conflict of the book. Your trailer should include:
- Voice-over or text narration
 - Background music and visual effects
 - A creative tagline
 - A clear hook that would persuade someone to read the book
 - Scenes or symbols (real or drawn) that reflect key moments

Option 7: Instagram Character Profile

- ✎ Design a mock Instagram page for one of the characters in your novel. You may use a slide deck, Canva template, or a poster format. Your profile should include:
- A creative handle (@character_name)
 - A bio that reflects the character's personality and values
 - **5 photo posts** with detailed captions that connect to real events in the book
 - **3 comment threads** with replies (written as if by other characters)
 - Hashtags that connect to themes and emotions (#betrayed #outcast #power #growth)
 - A story highlight title that captures the character's journey
 - Visual effort: Color, organization, and design matter!
- ✎

Option 8: Reader's Reflection Journal

- ✎ Write 6 thoughtful entries in a double-entry journal. Each entry should:
- Include a quote, passage, or moment from the book
 - Be followed by a paragraph-long personal reflection, connection, or question
 - Show growth in your thinking across the journal
 - Be handwritten neatly or typed, submitted as one document
- ✎

Option 9: Letter to the Author

- ✎ Write a full-page letter to the author of your book. Include:
- What the book meant to you
 - Questions you would ask the author
 - Comments on the author's style, themes, or characters
 - A respectful tone and proper letter format



Submission Guidelines for All Summer Projects

- ✳ **All work must be printed**, regardless of format, unless otherwise noted below.
- ✳ **For Writing-Based or Visual Projects (Options 1–3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10):**
 - **All projects must be printed**, including Google Slides, posters, Instagram profiles, playlists, timelines, or written essays.
 - Printed work must be on **8 ½” x 11” paper**, with your **full name** in the upper right-hand corner.
 - If submitting multiple pages, they must be **neatly stapled together**.
 - Written work (Options 1–3) must follow the formatting guidelines:
 - **Times New Roman, 12-point font, double-spaced**
 - **Maximum 500 words**
 - Submitted as **Microsoft Word or PDF**, if emailed due to emergency only

For Digital Media Files (Podcasts, Videos, etc.):

- Only **audio or video recordings** (e.g., podcast or book trailer) may be **emailed**.
- These must be sent to E048683@muscogee.k12.ga.us on the **due date only** (August 8, 2025).
- Do **not** email any projects prior to the due date.
- Include your **full name and project title** in the email subject line.
- For any questions or concerns, please contact me: E048683@muscogee.k12.ga.us

Kind Regards,

Mrs. Maxwell (Jay)

7th Grade English Language Arts Teacher

Richards Middle School