

## Summer Brain Training for Rising 8th Grade 2023

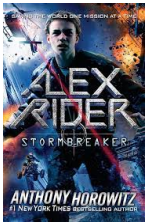
### **Math:**

Rising 8th graders must complete the *Summer Solutions* book provided at the end of the school year. It is recommended that students complete three lessons a week. This will allow the book to be finished and turned in on the 1st day of school in August. If the student is working with a tutor this summer, it is perfectly fine to work within this book during tutoring sessions.

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### **English:**

Rising 8th-grade students are required to read\* **two** books during the summer:



- One required book: *Alex Rider: Stormbreaker* by Anthony Horowitz
- One book of choice (selections cannot be books that have been previously read)

\*Students are welcome (and encouraged) to use audiobooks (i.e. books on tape, Bookshare, audiobooks, [audible.com](http://audible.com), [audiobooks.com](http://audiobooks.com), etc.). However, students must follow along in a paper copy of the book if they choose this option. Another option is reading to your child or alternating pages with your child.

**Students will complete two written assignments and have an additional *optional* assignment.**

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## Assignment for *Alex Rider: Stormbreaker*

**Directions:** Below are the traits of a hero. You will compose two separate paragraphs, identifying TWO different traits of a hero that Alex Ryder exhibits. Explain what the character did that made you select that trait using examples from the book. Each paragraph must be at least five sentences.

Save this document as “Name-Summer Reading 1” and share it with Mrs. Stefanick ([cstefanick@thelexingtonschool.org](mailto:cstefanick@thelexingtonschool.org)) on or before the first day of school.

### Traits of a Hero (choose TWO):

- True Heroes Serve Others
- True Heroes Are Extraordinary
- True Heroes Take Risks And Face Potential Loss
- True Heroes Are Self-sacrificing
- True Heroes Are Courageous
- True Heroes Are Humble

### Here is an example paragraph from *The Giver*:

In the book *The Giver*, by Lois Lowry, the main character Jonas exhibited the trait true heroes are extraordinary. First, he was extraordinary because he was chosen to be the Receiver of Memory and had the ability to “see beyond.” Jonas could see color when no one else could. Next, he dealt with tough memories like warfare. Lastly, Jonas saved Gabriel from dying by being released. For these reasons, Jonas was an extraordinary hero.

## Assignment for Book of Choice

**Directions:** While reading your second book (a book of choice), you should take notes. You may use BrainFrames, annotations, pictures, etc.

After reading the book of your choice, you will type **two** paragraphs: a plot summary paragraph and a recommendation/opinion paragraph. Follow the format of the sample below. Your responses must be typed, double-spaced, and use 12-point Arial or Times New Roman font.

Save this document as "**Name-Summer Reading 2**" and share it with Mrs. Stefanick ([cstefanick@thelexingtonschool.org](mailto:cstefanick@thelexingtonschool.org)) on or before the first day of school.

**Use the following format for the assignment:**

Joe Smith (**Name**)  
8th Grade (**Grade**)  
*Ungifted* (**Book Title**)  
Gordon Korman (**Author**)

**Paragraph 1 - Plot Summary:** Write one paragraph (minimum 5 sentences, maximum 10 sentences, double spaced). Summarize the main points of the book. Be sure to include the names of major characters and descriptions of important events in order. You must use your own words. **DO NOT** look at or copy from the back of the book or summaries on the internet.

**Paragraph 2 - Recommendation/Opinion:** Write one paragraph (minimum 5 sentences, maximum 10 sentences, double spaced). Make sure your recommendation addresses these points:

1. What type of audience would like this book?
2. Why would that audience like this book (be specific)?
3. What about this book makes it stand out from other books you have read (either good or bad)?
4. Why did you like or dislike this book? (Give specific reasons regarding the plot, characters, conflict, etc.)
5. How did this book make you feel? Does it change the way you see or feel about something?

**Book Citation:** Using mybib.com, create an MLA citation of your book.

## ***Optional (but fun!) Assignment***

***Optional Photo Contest:*** Take a photo of yourself reading in an unlikely location and email it to [cstefanick@thelexingtonschool.org](mailto:cstefanick@thelexingtonschool.org). In the subject line, include your first and last name, as well as your location (ex. Courtney Stefanick / Daniel Boone National Forest, KY). Be creative! Read at the top of the Empire State Building, in a canoe, or while climbing the Red River Gorge (be careful)! We will have prizes for everyone who participates and a grand prize drawing!