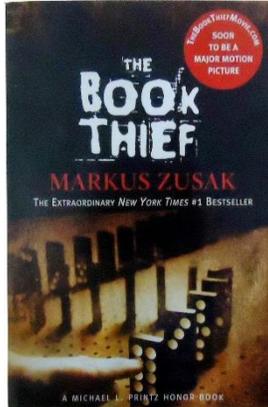


Summer Reading 2022-23 School Year

English I (Ninth Grade)

Freshmen (ninth grade) in Mrs. Armstrong's **English I** class are **required** to read over the summer *The Book Thief* by **Markus Zusak**. This novel is available at any local library as well as Barnes & Noble, Books A Million, Amazon, etc., at a very reasonable price. It is also available in audio format through Audible/Amazon.



I will assign a literary analysis essay on this novel the second to third full week of school. Don't worry about the essay part right now. Just read the book and enjoy it; however, be sure to take notes as you read on the elements listed below.

- **Who are your favorite characters?**
- **How do they develop/change throughout the plot?**
- **How do the characters' interactions with one another help create a theme or message in the story?**

During the second to third week of school, I will provide instruction about how to write an essay. The particular essay assignment I will give you for your summer reading is called a literary analysis essay. As you read, focus on the main characters and how they develop and change throughout the plot. Therefore, take notes, highlight, or tab your book with Post-it notes for the following information that you will eventually need to compose your essay:

Essay Parts

Introduction:

Title and author

Setting (time and place)

Major characters and a brief description of the role(s) they play in the book

Very brief plot summary

Body Paragraphs (3)

These paragraphs will focus on three specific characters, and you will need to provide evidence to show me how the characters develop and change throughout the plot. As you read, jot down any interesting quotes or summarized evidence which reveals or illustrates the characters' changing traits.

Conclusion

What's the point of the book? How did the characters' personalities help establish the theme(s) of the story? Why is the theme so important to our society today?

**Keep in mind, if you take these few simple notes or mark your book as you read, it will be easier to put all the pieces together once I assign the essay.

Have a great summer!