

# 8th Grade Honors Language Arts Summer Reading

Choose **ONE** of these 2 books:

## *Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson

It's late summer 1793, and the streets of Philadelphia are abuzz with mosquitoes and rumors of fever. Down near the docks, many have taken ill, and the fatalities are mounting. Now they include Polly, the serving girl at the Cook Coffeehouse. But fourteen-year-old Mattie Cook doesn't get a moment to mourn the passing of her childhood playmate. New customers have overrun her family's coffee shop, located far from the mosquito-infested river, and Mattie's concerns of fever are all but overshadowed by dreams of growing her family's small business into a thriving enterprise. But when the fever begins to strike closer to home, Mattie's struggle to build a new life must give way to a new fight—the fight to stay alive.

## *The Boys Who Challenged Hitler* by Phillip Hoose

At the outset of World War II, Denmark did not resist German occupation. Deeply ashamed of his nation's leaders, fifteen-year-old Knud Pedersen resolved with his brother and a handful of schoolmates to take action against the Nazis if the adults would not. Naming their secret club after the fiery British leader, the young patriots in the Churchill Club committed countless acts of sabotage, infuriating the Germans, who eventually had the boys tracked down and arrested. But their efforts were not in vain: the boys' exploits and eventual imprisonment helped spark a full-blown Danish resistance. Interweaving his own narrative with the recollections of Knud himself, here is Phillip Hoose's inspiring story of these young war heroes.

After reading your chosen book, choose 1 of the 2 essay topics and write a 5 paragraph essay in MLA format.

### *Fever 1793*

1. How is it a coming of age novel? Think of Maddie's growth.
2. Who is Maddie's chosen family? How are they important to her?

### *The Boys Who Challenged Hitler*

1. How does Knud change and grow over the course of the book? Why?
2. Choose 3 boys from the Churchill Club; discuss each boy's personality and motivation.

***Check your email from me, subject "Summer Reading," for extra help.***