

West Seneca West Middle School

Summer Reading List for Incoming English 8 Honors

Incoming 8th graders in English 8 Honors must read *The Princess Bride* by William Goldman. **Do not** read a Young Reader's version – be sure to choose the original book. Students will create a body biography project (described on the back) based on a character from *The Princess Bride*.

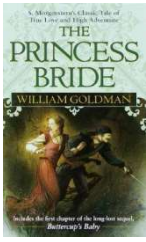
Book Title / Series Number if available	Author	Year	Genre	Lexile
REQUIRED: <i>The Princess Bride</i> * This is a story about quests — for riches, revenge, power, and true love — that is thrilling and timeless. A swordsman and a gentle giant come to the aid of Westley, a handsome farm boy, and Buttercup, a princess in dire need of rescue from the evil schemers surrounding her.	William Goldman	1974	Fantasy fiction	870

* Indicates an ebook is available in Destiny.

HOW TO LOCATE BOOKS:

- West Middle school library catalog, Destiny:**
 - Destiny: <http://libraries.wscschools.org> (print books, ebooks and audiobooks)
 - Students may log in to search the Destiny catalog using their school Google account.
 - Students may check out print books from the school library in June before school ends and return them by September; E-books and audio books may be checked out any time online in Destiny or Sora. Destiny search results will include any copies of a title available in Sora.
 - Sora: <http://www.SoraApp.com> (ebooks and audiobooks) **Sora now adds content from the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library to your school account automatically – no public library card needed!*
- Buffalo & Erie County public library catalog:**
 - <http://www.buffalolib.org> (click "Search Catalog" across the top)
 - The public library offers print, audio and e-books.
 - Phone numbers for local branches:
 - West Seneca, 716-674-2928
 - Orchard Park, 716-662-9851
 - Lackawanna, 716-823-0630
 - Julia Boyer Reinstein (Cheektowaga), 716-668-4991
 - Anna Reinstein (Cheektowaga), 716-892-8089
 - Go here for information about getting a library card: <http://www.buffalolib.org/library-cards>
- Local book stores:**
 - Dog Ears Bookstore, 688 Abbott Rd., South Buffalo NY 14220, 716-823-2665, www.dogearsbookstore.org
 - Talking Leaves Elmwood, 951 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo NY 14224, 716-884-9524, www.tleavesbooks.com
 - Zawadi Books, 1382 Jefferson Ave., Buffalo NY 14208, 716-903-6740, www.facebook.com/zawadibooksbflo
 - Barnes & Noble McKinley Mall, 3701 McKinley Parkway, Hamburg NY 14219, 716-822-0832, www.bn.com
 - Barnes & Noble Eastern Hills Mall, 4401 Transit Road, Clarence NY 14221, 716-634-1011, www.bn.com
 - Barnes & Noble Amherst, 1565 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst NY 14228, 716-837-7209, www.bn.com
- Online book stores:**
 - www.powells.com
 - www.amazon.com





The Body Biography

English 8 Honors

Your task: You will choose a character from *The Princess Bride* and create a visual and written portrait illustrating important aspects of your character's life. You are to create a portrait (the size of a large poster board) of your character from descriptions given in the book.

Materials Needed:

- Poster board (or the equivalent)
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils
- Fabric, yarn, or any other materials you choose
- Construction paper

Required Elements of Your Character Body Biography:

- ✓ A review of the most significant events involving your character.
- ✓ Visual symbols representing your character or a facet of his/her life.
- ✓ The five most important quotes relating to your character. (Focus on quotes that help the reader understand the character. Which quotes REALLY show us what that character is all about?)

Please feel free to come up with your own creations to fill up your poster. The choices you make should be based on evidence from the text. In addition, you will give a presentation explaining your body biography to the class during our first week of school.

Above all, your choices should be analytical, accurate, and creative!

Remember: as long as you can support your choices with textual evidence, you cannot be wrong. Each person will choose the best way to represent the following aspects of the character symbolically:

- ❖ **The Heart:** Where should it be placed to best represent what this character loves most? What should it look like and what shape, color, pictures, or symbols should be included in it?
- ❖ **The Backbone:** This should be represented in a way that visually conveys what motivates the character most. What gives them strength?
- ❖ **The Hands:** What does the character hold in her or his hands? Items that are associated with the character either literally or figuratively should be included.
- ❖ **The Feet:** On what is the character standing? This should be a symbolic representation of the character's most fundamental beliefs about life. What does the character stand for?
- ❖ **The Background:** Students should draw some elements that suggest the character's environment, background, or predicament. (Think setting.)
- ❖ **Quotations:** Near the character's head, students should place a *minimum of 5* direct quotations or passages from the text that sum up the character and add to an understanding of the character.

Turn your body biography in on the first day we return to school. If you have any questions, email your teacher:

- Mrs. Fix: tfix@wscschools.org
- Ms. Barone: mbarone1@wscschools.org

We will check our email as often as possible over the summer.

Adapted from Buffy Hamilton's body biography project for secondary students.