



# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts

## Choice Board

<p><b>Keep a Diary or Journal</b></p> <p>You are living through a moment in history that people will look back on one day! You may one day be telling your own children and grandchildren what you experienced during the coronavirus pandemic of 2020.</p> <p>With that in mind, journal a few times over the course of the closure. You might describe what you do with your time, how you're feeling, what you're thinking, and what you're observing in the world around you. You might include videos, images, excerpts from news sources, etc., or even collaborate with classmates online to combine your stories into a blog, podcast, video, etc.</p>	<p><b>Choice Novel Cool Quotes Collection</b></p> <p>As you read your novel, jot down places where the author uses language in interesting ways. You may notice places where words are used to describe setting, characters, or events in ways that are funny, beautiful, haunting, disturbing, heartbreaking, etc. You can use cool fonts and/or illustrations as you write these out. By each quote, provide a short explanation of why the quote stuck out to you, the mood it creates, etc.</p> <p>If you want, <a href="#">check out Sketch note ideas online</a> for cool ways to organize, write out and illustrate your collection!</p>	<p><b>Talk to your Family</b></p> <p>Call up a grandparent, aunt or uncle, cousin, etc. Ask them how they're doing, how their life has been impacted by COVID-19, what is going on in the town or state where they live, etc. With their permission, you might even record the conversations.</p> <p>Write down the details you learn. If you're feeling inspired, compile some of these stories or observations you collect into a slideshow, video, podcast, etc.</p>
<p><b>Choice Novel Artwork Analysis</b></p> <p>Book covers are art. Analyze the cover of your choice novel as if it were a text. Consider the use of color, angles, perspective (close up vs. far away), the content, symbols, and style, and describe your cover through this lens. Use precise language to describe the mood it creates!</p>	<p><b>Choice Novel Reading Time!</b></p> <p>When in doubt, spend 20-30 minutes curled up with a narrative novel you're interested in! Remember that reading is an excellent way to destress, develop your reading (and writing!) abilities, and spark creativity.</p> <p>Don't have a book? <a href="#">Instructions for free e-book checkouts here.</a></p>	<p><b>Choice Novel Soundtrack</b></p> <p>After reading the first 25% or so of your book, begin putting together a playlist of songs that you think fit the tone, mood, events, and characters in the book. Continue to add to this as you read!</p> <p>Check out soundtracks for books-turned-films that you're familiar with for inspiration (e.g., <a href="#">this Spotify playlist</a> of songs from "The Hunger Games" movies)</p>
<p><b>Write a Review</b></p> <p>With all this time away from school, you may be spending more time reading books or magazines, watching movies and TV shows, playing games (digital or otherwise), etc. Write a detailed review of something you've read, watched or played and would recommend to classmates. This review can be in the form of an article, a video, a podcast, etc. Be creative, detailed, and have fun!</p>	<p><b>Choice Novel Character Sketch</b></p> <p>On a blank piece of paper, use pictures and words to describe an important character in your choice novel (their personality, opinions, struggles, etc.) and/or the setting (place, time, important events going on around the character, etc.). Be creative and have fun!</p> <p>Feel free to browse <a href="#">this Pinterest page</a> for inspiration!</p>	<p><b>Respond to a "Seed"</b></p> <p>Respond to any written or digital text (or "seed") about the crisis you find interesting. A "seed" can be an article, a broadcast, a Ted Talk, a tweet, a photograph, a podcast, a film, an Instagram (or another online) post, a TikTok video, a political cartoon—anything that spurs some thinking about the crisis.</p> <p>See <a href="#">this list</a> for some ideas to get you started!</p>