

2017-2018 Grade 8 Summer Reading Assignment

For your summer reading assignment this year, please read **THREE** of the following short stories. If you need hard copies of the stories, please go to the main office of CMS. They will have several copies of each story available.

*As you read, please complete two-column notes (either on a Google Doc or in print). On the left, please record textual evidence of **characterization, conflict, and elements of the plot line** (exposition, inciting incident, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution). There is an exemplar and template of the two-column notes provided.*

Story List:

(1) "Charles" (Realistic) - Shirley Jackson

["Charles" Link](#)

[Audio Link to "Charles"](#)

(2) "Miss Awful" (Realistic) - Arthur Cavanaugh

["Miss Awful" Link](#)

["Miss Awful" - Audio Part 1](#) (you may need to download this one before listening)

["Miss Awful" - Audio Part 2](#)

["Miss Awful" - Audio Part 3](#)

["Miss Awful" - Audio Part 4](#) (super short!)

(3) "The Adventure of the Speckled Band" (Mystery) - Arthur Conan Doyle

["Speckled Band" Link](#)

["Speckled Band" VIDEO Link](#) -- this may help you understand what's happening in the story if the language is challenging

[Audio Link to "The Adventure of the Speckled Band"](#)

(4) "What the Worst That Could Happen?" (Humor) - Bruce Coville

["What's the Worst That Could Happen?" Link](#)

["What's the Worst" - Audio Part 1](#)

["What's the Worst" - Audio Part 2](#)

["What's the Worst" - Audio Part 3](#)

["What's the Worst" - Audio Part 4](#)

["What's the Worst" - Audio Part 5](#)

["What's the Worst" - Audio Part 6](#)

(5) "A Sound of Thunder" (Science Fiction) - Ray Bradbury

["A Sound of Thunder" Link](#) | ["A Sound of Thunder" TEXTBOOK Link](#) (more prompts, vocabulary)

[Audio Link to "A Sound of Thunder"](#)