

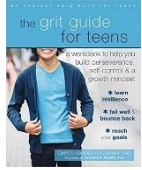
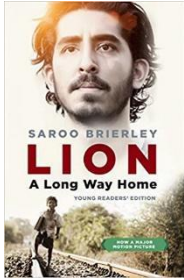
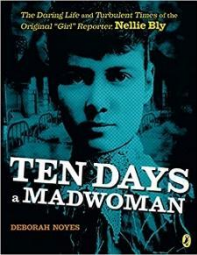
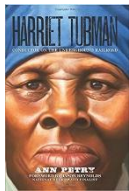
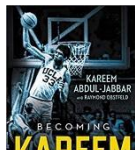
# Austin Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA Summer Reading



## Project

I have selected the following assignment for you to complete before the beginning of the school year.

Each student is required to complete the *"The Grit Guide for Teens"* and choose one of the listed novels. Each novel addresses complex themes we will discuss throughout the school year. Read each synopsis before making your selection.

Required Reading	Book Synopsis and Information
<p><i>The Grit Guide for Teens: A Workbook to Help You Build Perseverance, Self-Control, and a Growth Mindset</i> (1st Edition) By: Caren Baruch-Feldman PhD</p> 	<p>"When the going gets tough, it's time to get gritty. Written by a clinical-child and school psychologist and based in the latest research, <i>The Grit Guide for Teens</i> will help you build perseverance, resilience, self-control, and stamina." – Amazon.com</p> <p>ISBN-13: 978-1626258563 Available @ <a href="#">Amazon</a> <a href="#">Barnes &amp; Noble</a> <a href="#">Rosenberg Library</a> <a href="#">Target</a></p>
Select One (1) of the Following Novels	
<p><i>Lion: A Long Way Home</i> - Young Readers' Edition By: Saroo Brierley</p> 	<p>"When Saroo Brierley used Google Earth to find his long-lost hometown half a world away, he made global headlines. Saroo had become lost on a train in India at the age of five. Not knowing the name of his family or where he was from, he survived for weeks on the streets of Kolkata before being taken into an orphanage and adopted by a couple in Australia. Despite being happy in his new family, Saroo always wondered about his origins. When he was a young man the advent of Google Earth led him to pore over satellite images of India for landmarks he recognized. And one day, after years of searching, he miraculously found what he was looking for and set off on a journey to find his mother." – Amazon.com</p> <p>ISBN-13: 978-0425291764 Available @ <a href="#">Amazon</a> <a href="#">Barnes &amp; Noble</a> <a href="#">Rosenberg Library</a> <a href="#">Target</a></p>
<p><i>Ten Days a Madwoman: The Daring Life and Turbulent Times of the Original "Girl" Reporter, Nellie Bly</i> By: Deborah Noyes</p> 	<p>"The compelling and true story of how one truly dedicated journalist admitted herself to an asylum to write a groundbreaking exposé. Young Nellie Bly had ambitious goals, especially for a woman at the end of the nineteenth century, when the few female journalists were relegated to writing columns about cleaning or fashion. But fresh off a train from Pittsburgh, Nellie knew she was destined for more and pulled a major journalistic stunt that skyrocketed her to fame: feigning insanity, being committed to the notorious asylum on Blackwell's Island, and writing a shocking exposé of the clinic's horrific treatment of its patients." – Amazon.com</p> <p>ISBN-13: 978-0147508744 Available @ <a href="#">Amazon</a> <a href="#">Barnes &amp; Noble</a> <a href="#">Rosenberg Library</a> <a href="#">Target</a></p>
<p><i>Harriet Tubman: Conductor on the Underground Railroad</i> By: Ann Petry</p> 	<p>"Harriet Tubman was born a slave and dreamed of being free. She was willing to risk everything—including her own life—to see that dream come true. After her daring escape, Harriet became a conductor on the secret Underground Railroad, helping others make the dangerous journey to freedom." – Amazon.com</p> <p>ISBN-13: 978-0062668264 Available @ <a href="#">Amazon</a> <a href="#">Barnes &amp; Noble</a> <a href="#">Target</a></p>
<p><i>Becoming Kareem: Growing Up On and Off the Court</i> By: Kareem Abdul-Jabbar</p> 	<p>"At one time, Lew Alcindor was just another kid from New York City with all the usual problems: He struggled with fitting in, with pleasing a strict father, and with overcoming shyness that made him feel socially awkward. But with a talent for basketball, and an unmatched team of supporters, Lew Alcindor was able to transform and to become Kareem Abdul-Jabbar." – Amazon.com</p> <p>ISBN-13: 978-0316555418 Available @ <a href="#">Amazon</a> <a href="#">Barnes &amp; Noble</a></p>

# Reading Project Directions

**NOTE:** *The Grit Guide for Teens* is an interactive workbook that should be completed before selecting your novel.

After you have chosen and read your novel, you will complete the following assignment. This assignment will be due **within the first three weeks of school**. If you have questions about the assignment or the reading prior to the beginning of school, email me at [angelacrowder@gisd.org](mailto:angelacrowder@gisd.org) and I will be happy to help.

## Grit Analysis Assignment

*Directions:* Hand-draw or electronically-create an image which analyzes the featured person from your chosen novel.

**You will choose four (4) "Body Parts" to Analyze.**

You will be required to:

- A. Answer **EACH** body-part question. (25 Points per Part, **See:** Reading Project Grading Rubric)
- B. Provide **TWO** pieces of textual evidence from the text.
- C. Explain **your textual evidence** in the context of events (examples) from the novel.
- D. Describe how the textual evidence you use **proves** and **shows** your answer.
  - Your paragraphs **MUST** be grammatically correct to receive full credit.
  - Remember **EACH** answer must follow the format stated above.
  - This project will count as a **major grade**.

## The Body Parts - Questions

**Head:** Analyze the intellectual side of the person.

1. Does he/she analyze situations or just react?
2. Is he/she smart or intelligent?
3. How did he/she exhibit grit?

**Eyes:** Analyze Observations: How observant is the person?

1. What does he/she notice about others?
2. What does he/she notice about his/her surroundings?
3. How does he/she use observations to exhibit grit?

**Ears:** Analyze what others say about him/her.

1. Why does he/she remember what others say to him/her?
2. How is he/she affected by what others say?
3. How does he/she use this information to exhibit grit?

**Mouth:** Analyze what the person reveals when he/she speaks.

1. What philosophy regarding life and surroundings does he/she reveal?
2. What ideas or values does he/she assert or demonstrate is important?
3. Which ideas or values lead to his/her determination and grit?

**Hands:** Analyze how the person handles situations and events.

1. What kind of conflicts does he/she deal with?
2. How does he/she resolve or deal with conflicts?
3. How does the way he/she deals with conflicts show grit?

**Heart:** Analyze the emotional nature of the person.

1. How does the person feel about himself/herself?
2. How does the person feel about people who are different from himself/herself?
3. Did the person's feelings change through their journey?

**Torso/Legs:** Analyze the instinctive side of the person.

1. What brings the person pain?
2. How does he/she deal with emotional and physical pain?
3. How did he/she demonstrate grit?

**Feet:** Analyze the person's reactions to events.

1. When upset about something, how does the person react? (fight, flight, or freeze)
2. How is he/she affected by where he/she has been?
3. How did the person's life events affect their grit?

## **Reading Project Grading Rubric**

### **Completeness (5 points)**

- ☐ Does your response directly answer each part of the assignment questions?

Excellent 5	Very Good 4 – 3	Good 2	Need Improvement 0 – 1
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### **Knowledge (10 points)**

- ☐ Does your response clearly demonstrate you have read and understand the lesson content?
- o Answer All Questions?
  - o Provide Textual Evidence?
  - o Explain Relevance of Evidence?
  - o Describe Connections of Key Concepts?
- ☐ Have you made inferences based on this knowledge to personal or modern-day applications?

Excellent 10 – 9	Very Good 8 – 6	Good 5 – 3	Need Improvement 0 – 2
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### **Analysis (5 points)**

- ☐ Analysis clearly stated with supporting textual examples.
- ☐ Does your response provide analysis to the larger concepts of the lesson (Demonstrates Grit)?

Excellent 5	Very Good 4 – 3	Good 2	Need Improvement 0 – 1
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### **Writing Skills (5 points)**

- ☐ Clearly written, in complete sentences, with minimal to no errors in grammar and spelling?

Excellent 5	Very Good 4 – 3	Good 2	Need Improvement 0 – 1
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