**Grade 9 Literature Circles**

Novels:

*Sold*

*The Fault in Our Stars*

*Acceleration*

*Street Pharm*

*Little Brother*

*The Cellist of Sarejevo*

*The Hunger Games*

*A Long Way Gone*

*The Curious Incident of the Dog and the Nightime*

The novels will be introduced in class and you will have an opportunity to leaf through them, read the back cover details and preview a few pages to see if the vocabulary is suited to your reading level.

**Students should choose novels according to the subject matter and reading level so that they can fully participate in the group discussions and also fulfill their designated responsibilities within the group.**

*Books may only be read in class; however, if you are a slow reader, you may need to sign out a library copy so that you can keep up with your group’s reading schedule.*

Your goal is to finish reading the book during class by the end of May – that is just over 4 weeks.

Your group will need to do the math:

* a book of 90 pages would mean reading 30 pages per week or 6 pages per day
* a book of 210 pages would mean reading 70 pages per week or 14-15 pages per day
* a book of 300 pages would mean reading 100 pages per week or 20 pages per day

We will spend one hour daily with the novel study: 20-30 minutes reading and 30-40 minutes in discussion. Each student will have specific roles to play within the group and you will be required to record this work in your English journal notebook. The teacher will rotate daily to listen in on each group’s discussions and will also regularly sit in on each group’s discussion.

As you proceed through the novel and your group discussions, you will each need to keep in mind your final group oral presentation and project that will include

* showing visuals such as PowerPoint, Prezi, etc.
* reading aloud well-chosen passages to give the rest of the class a snapshot of the novel
* sharing favourite quotations, words, or figurative language from the novel
* explaining the central conflict without giving away anything that would ruin it for future readers
* painting a portrait of the main characters by using visuals as well as examples of direct and indirect characterization
* providing some background information on the cultural, social and geographical setting