

## Worlds of Words 2020

### Grades 6-8 Additional Recommended Global Fiction

Title and author	Level Info	Global Context	Themes/Plot	Possible Pairings
<i>A Beautiful Lie</i> , Irfan Master	790 L 304 pp	India, Pakistan 1947	A boy tells his father lies about the partition of India into two countries by religion, hoping to give him peace before death.	<i>The Night Diary</i> , Veera Hiranandani
<i>A Girl Named Disaster</i> , Nancy Farmer	730L (X) 309 pp	Zimbabwe	While fleeing from Mozambique to Zimbabwe, Nhamo struggles to escape drowning and starvation and experiences the world of African spirits.	
<i>A Skinful of Shadows</i> Frances Hardinge	800 L 415 pp	England, 1640s	An illegitimate daughter is used by her aristocratic family as a receptacle for family ghosts. Issues of powerlessness and integrity. Historical fantasy.	
<i>A Thunderous Whisper</i> , Christina Diaz Gonzalez	660 L 309 pp	Spain 1937	Spanish Civil War and Franco. A Basque girl and Jewish refugee join the resistance effort. Guernica.	<i>Resistance</i> , Jennifer Nielsen
<i>All the Ways Home</i> , Elsie Chapman	800 L 216 pp	Japan	After his mother's death, Kaede's behavior leads to him being sent to his estranged father in Japan.	
<i>Amina</i> , J.L. Powers	RL 6.4 183 pp	Somalia	Amina lives in war torn Somalia and begins secretly creating her own art to give hope to others.	<i>The Vine Basket</i> , Josanne La Valley
<i>Caminar</i> , Skila Brown	RL 6.1 193 pp	Guatemala 1981 NV	When soldiers arrive in his village, Carlos joins a group of guerillas to warn his grandmother. Novel in verse.	<i>Son of a Gun</i> , Anne de Graaf
<i>Colibri</i> , Ann Cameron	730L (W) 227 pp	Guatemala	Kidnapped from her parents when she is only 4, a girl travels with Uncle, a wandering con artist.	

<i>Dance of the Banished</i> , Marsha Skrypuch	800 L 231 pp	Anatolia Canada 1914-1916	An Anatolian couple are separated with one witnessing the Armenian genocide and the other sent to a prison camp in Canada during WWI.	
<i>Departure Time</i> , Truus Matti	RL 6.0 214 pp	Netherlands	A girl with amnesia finds herself in a motel with strange creatures who offer clues about her past.	
<i>Dodger Boy</i> , Sarah Ellis	178 pp	Canada 1970s	An American draft dodger comes to stay with Charlotte and her family in Vancouver, challenging her to consider complex social issues.	
<i>Dragon Castle</i> , Joseph Bruchac	850 L 346 pp	Slovakia	Young Prince Raschko has to manage the kingdom and castle when his parents disappear.	
<i>Escape from Aleppo</i> , N. H. Senzai	880 L 326 pp	Syria	Nadia is separated from her family as they flee across Aleppo to escape the bombing. Provides an intro to modern Syria and the costs of war.	<i>Refugee</i> , Alan Gratz <i>Escape from Syria</i> , S. Kullab
<i>Escape from Syria</i> . Samya Kullab	96 pp GN	Syria	Graphic novel that follows an ordinary family who become faceless refugees due to war.	<i>Refugee</i> , Alan Gratz <i>Escape from Aleppo</i> , N. H. Senzai
<i>Falling into the Dragon's Mouth</i> , Holly Thompson	RL 6.4 352 pp NV	Japan	A boy experiences cruel bullying in school after moving to Japan. Novel in verse.	
<i>Far, Far Away</i> , Tom McNeal	790L (Y) 371 pp	Germany	A teen can hear the ghost of Jacob Grimm, who helps him uncover the source of evil in his town.	<i>Reckless</i> , Cornelia Funke
<i>Fearless Girls, Wise Women and Beloved Sisters</i> , Kathleen Ragan	1060 L 450 pp	Global	100 folktales from different parts of the world that feature a heroine.	<i>Changing Woman and Her Sisters</i> , Katrin Tchana <i>Tatterhood</i> , Ethel Johnston Phelps
<i>Grenade</i> , Alan Gratz	760 L 270 pp	Okinawa WWII, 1945	Hideki is drafted by the Japanese army to kill the American soldiers. Told in the voices of Ray and Hideki as their worlds collide.	<i>Warriors in the Crossfire</i> , Nancy Bo Flood

<i>Half a Man</i> , Michael Morpurgo	770L 47 pp	England Italy	During a summer on Sicily, Michael gets to know his reclusive grandfather who has a disfigured face.	
<i>Hurricane Child</i> , Kheryn Callender	214 pp RL 6.0	U.S. Virgin Islands	Considered bad luck and rejected, Caroline falls in love with another girl and undertakes a dangerous journey. Magical realism.	
<i>Lost Girl Found</i> , Leah Bassoff	770L 212 pp	Sudan	When war comes to her village, Poni runs for her life and begins a long and dangerous trek to Kenya.	<i>Beast Rider</i> , Tony Johnson <i>Refugee 87</i> , Ele Fountain
<i>Love to Everyone</i> , Hilary McKay	800 L 324 pp	England 1902	In a grim household, Clary longs for more and seizes a chance for a life of her own during WWI.	
<i>Mira in the Present Tense</i> , Sita Brahmachari	870L 284 pp	England	Mira, half Jewish and half Indian, uses her diary to make sense of friendship, puberty, death, and life.	
<i>My Brother's Secret</i> , Dan Smith	770L 293 pp	Germany WWII	Karl is an enthusiastic member of the German Hitler Youth, but comes to question everything.	
<i>Nation</i> , Terry Pratchett	790L (X) 367 pp	Oceania	Two children from different cultures survive a giant wave. Separated by language and customs, they must build a new life on a tropical island.	<i>Swallow's Dance</i> , Wendy Orr
<i>Nobody Knows</i> , Shelley Tanaka	580L (Z) 143 pp	Japan	Akira and his younger siblings, abandoned by their mother, are in desperate need but are unseen by neighbors leading to tragedy.	
<i>Over a Thousand Hills I Walk with You</i> , Hanna Jansen	790L 342 pp	Rwanda	Jeanne, the only member of her family not killed in the Rwanandan genocide, struggles to start a new life without her family.	<i>Lost Girl Found</i> , Leah Bassoff
<i>Raven Summer</i> , David Almond	480L 198 pp	England	Led to an abandoned baby by a raven, Liam meets two children who have experienced violence.	<i>The Fox Girl and the White Gazelle</i> , Victoria Williamson

<i>Resistance</i> , Jennifer Nielsen	820 L 385 pp	Poland WWII, 1941	A Jewish girl smuggles food to Jewish ghettos and joins the resistance in the Warsaw Ghetto.	
<i>Run for Your Life</i> , Silvana Gandolfi	275 pp	Italy/Sicily Tr	The voices of two boys gradually weave together in a story about the Mafia and doing the right thing.	
<i>Scarlet</i> , A.C. Gaughen	670L 292 pp	England	Scarlet poses as Will Scar, a knife throwing thief in Robin Hood's Merry Men in a reimagined fairy tale.	
<i>Shadow on the Mountain</i> , Margi Preus	730L 290 pp	Norway WWII	During Nazi occupations, a teen joins the resistance movement, eventually becoming a spy.	<i>Resistance</i> , Jennifer Nielsen
<i>Shadow Spinner</i> , Susan Fletcher	710L 219 pp	Iran	In ancient Persia, Marjan gathers stories to share Shahrazad, the queen, to save her life.	<i>Girl of the Southern Sea</i> , Michelle Kadarusman
<i>Skellig</i> , David Almond	490L (Y) 182pp	England	Michael retreats to the garage as he struggles to cope with his baby sister's illness and finds a mysterious stranger.	
<i>Son of a Gun</i> , Anne de Graaf	700L (Z) 125 pp	Liberia	Lucky and his sister and their classmates are kidnapped and forced to become child soldiers.	<i>Caminar</i> , Skila Brown
<i>Stones for My Father</i> , Trilby Kent	970L 170 pp	South Africa	When the British invade, Corlie is put into a cruel internment camp as a Boer and finds help from a Canadian soldier.	
<i>Storyteller</i> , Edward Myers	720L 283 pp	Europe	A moral fable about a poor boy named Jack, whose talents lead him to become a royal storyteller.	
<i>Swallow's Dance</i> , Wendy Orr	980 L 274 pp	Crete Bronze Age	Leira is forced to flee and try to survive when a volcano throws destroys her privileged life.	
<i>Tatterhood</i> , Ethel Johnston Phelps	910L 170 pp	Global	Twelve folktales that focus on women with cunning, hard work, and physical strength.	<i>Changing Woman and Her Sisters</i> , Katrin Tchana

				<i>Fearless Girls, Wise Women and Beloved Sisters</i> , Kathleen Ragan
<i>The Badger Knight</i> , Kathryn Erskine	770L (W) 325 pp	England 1346	A small and sickly boy with albinism runs away to join the battle against the pagan Scots.	
<i>The Bombs that Brought Us Together</i> , Brian Conaghan	361 pp	Fantasy Cold War	Allegory on the consequences of war as a boy from oppressive Little Town meets a refugee from Old Country. An invasion tests their survival and loyalty.	
<i>The Boy Who Dared</i> , Susan Campbell Bartoletti	760L (Y) 202 pp	Germany WWII	A novel based on the true story of a boy who was imprisoned for distributing Anti-Nazi leaflets.	<i>Shadow on the Mountain</i> , Margi Preus <i>We Will Not Be Silent</i> , Russell Freedman
<i>The Breadwinner</i> , Deborah Ellis	630L (Z) 170 pp	Afghanistan	Parvana disguises herself as a boy to earn money so that her family can survive after father's arrest.	<i>Kids of Kabul</i> , Deborah Ellis
<i>My Name is Parvana</i> , Deborah Ellis	670L (Z) 201 pp		Parvana recounts the past four years of her life as she awaits military forces to determine her fate.	<i>Afghan Dreams</i> , Tony O'Brien
<i>The Day the World Stopped Turning</i> , Michael Murpurgo	284 pp 900 L RL 8.3	France WWII	Lorenzo, an autistic boy, lives on the salt flats connected to nature and routine, but when the Germans invade, everything is threatened.	
<i>The Ear, the Eye, and the Arm</i> , Nancy Farmer	660L 336 pp	Zimbabwe 2194	Three children are kidnapped to work in a plastic mine, while detectives use special powers to search.	
<i>The Executioner's Daughter</i> , Jane Hardstaff	620L (Z+) 255 pp	England 1500s	A girl wants to escape her life as the daughter of the executioner at the Tower of London, and her job of collecting severed heads.	
<i>The Fox Girl and the White Gazelle</i> , Victoria Williamson	RL 6.6 243 pp	Syria Scotland	Reema, a Syrian refugee, and a lonely neighbor find an injured fox and cubs, leading to friendship and a sense of belonging in difficult circumstances.	

<i>The Great Trouble: A Mystery of London, the Blue Death, and a Boy called Eel</i> , Deborah Hopkinson	660L (X) 249 pp	England 1854	Eel and his best friend Florrie must help Dr. John Snow prove that cholera is spread through water in London.	
<i>The Murderer's Ape</i> , Jakob Wegelius	870 L 588 pp	Germany Tr	When her best friend is falsely accused of murder, a gorilla travels the seas in an attempt to clear Henry's name. Dark truths and deep friendships.	
<i>The Midwife's Apprentice</i> , Karen Cushman	1240L (X) 122 pp	England Medieval	In medieval England, a nameless homeless girl is taken in by a sharp tempered midwife.	
<i>The Silver Donkey</i> , Sonya Hartnett	740L (V) 266 pp	France WWI	Four French children learn honesty, loyalty, and courage from an English army deserter.	
<i>The Taste of Rain</i> , Monique Polak	213 pp RL 6.0 (Z)	China WWII	Japanese imprison American children from a boarding school in China during WWII, who follow the Girl Guide code to survive.	<i>Under the Broken Sky</i> , Mariko Nagai
<i>The White Giraffe</i> , Lauren St. John	940L (U) 180 pp	South Africa	Martine lives with her grandmother on a wildlife game reserve and glimpses a legendary giraffe.	
<i>Warriors in the Crossfire</i> , Nancy Bo Flood	560L (Y) 142 pp	Micronesia WWII	Joseph, a native of Saipan, is caught in the crossfire between Japanese and American troops.	<i>Grenade</i> , Alan Gratz

Tr = translated from that language and country into English

Under Levels, the letters, e.g. (O), in parentheses are Fountas and Pinnell levels

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