**Independent Novel Study**

*Choose one of following assignments to complete on the novel you are reading.*

*Assignment I have chosen to complete: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**Assignment Due Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Book Talk Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Independent Novel Study Assignment Choices:**

**1. Character Diary Entries:**

Choose one of the main characters in the story. Create your character’s diary in at least six entries (100 words each). Be sure to spread your entries throughout the entire novel. Include the thoughts and feelings that your character is experiencing as well as a few predictions as to what may happen in the future. Be sure to mention events that are happening to the character and write in the same style the character speaks.

**2. Advice Column:**

Play “*Dear Abby”.* Compose letters (150 words each) from at least 3 characters stating the different dilemmas (conflicts) they face with specific events and dialogue from the book. Reply to each letter with an advice-filled response (minimum 50 words each). Conflict is the challenge that the main characters need to solve to achieve their goals.

**3. Setting Map:**

Draw a detailed colored map of the setting of the novel. Draw your setting map on a poster board and be sure to indicate/label on the map all of the important landmarks and where the more important events take place. Include a detailed description of the setting (200 words). Remember setting includes the location and time frame in which the action of a narrative takes place.

**4. Book Jacket:**

Design the book jacket for your novel for promotional purposes. On an 8½ x 11 piece of paper, create both the front and back covers and include all of the pertinent information. On the front, include the title, author’s name, and an illustration that depicts the plot. On the back, include a brief summary of the book and praise from other authors. On the inside flap, include a picture of author and a brief biography. Look at other book jackets to get an idea of the lay-out/format and what to include.

**5. Song and Lyrics**

Write a song (words/music) about an aspect of the novel (the theme, a character’s struggle, the setting, plot, etc). Record the song for the class to hear and appreciate. Include a copy of the lyrics with your recording and a written explanation (minimum 100 words) of your lyrics. Your song should have a minimum of 4 verses and a chorus.

**6. Newspaper Front Page**

Write a copy for a newspaper front page that is devoted solely to the book you read. The front page should look similar to a real front page of a newspaper. Include a minimum of two articles (150 words each) and accompanying pictures. The front page should also include an advertisement of some sort. All content on the front page should be based on the characters, setting, and events (plot, conflict, resolution) of the book. Be creative! Choose a name for your paper that fits with the setting and/or theme of your novel.

**7. Character Interview**

Create a list of interview questions (minimum of 15) that you would ask the main character of the novel. Conduct an interview with you as the main character, answering the questions as the main character would have in the novel. Be sure to record this as either audio or video and have your questions and answers written out and ready to submit.

**8. Letter to the author**

Write a 500-word letter to the author of your book. Explain in the letter what parts of the story you liked and didn't like. Provide suggestions of things the author could have done differently. Ask questions you still have or about things you need more detail on, etc. Be sure to use formal letter format for your letter- it should look official.

**9. Character Sculpture**

Create a sculpture of the main character in your novel. Include a detailed description of your character (physical description, as well as their personality, attitude, and behaviours). Use detailed examples from the novel to support your description. Your written description should be a minimum of 300 words.

**Marking Rubric for Written Work**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **4 - Excelling**  (Exceeds Expectations) | **3 – Fully Meeting**  (Fully Meets Expectations) | **2 – Approaching +**  (Meets Expectations at Minimal Level) | **1 - Approaching**  (Not Yet Within Expectations) |
| **Comprehension** | Written work demonstrates excellent comprehension of topic. | Written work demonstrates good comprehension of topic. | Written work demonstrates incomplete comprehension of topic. | Written work demonstrates incomplete or inaccurate comprehension of topic. |
| **Supporting detail and information from the novel** | Writing includes supporting evidence from the text. | Writing includes some supporting evidence from the text. | Writing includes minimal supporting evidence from the text. | Writing doesn’t include any supporting evidence from the text. |
| **Clarity and Organization** | Sentences are easy to understand.  Evidence of note taking, planning, and editing.  Evidence of effort & care. | Sentences are easy to understand.  Evidence of note taking, planning, and editing.  Some evidence of effort & care. | Sentences are understandable, but key points are missing.  Some evidence of note taking, planning, and editing. | Sentences are difficult to understand.  There is minimal evidence of note taking, planning, or editing. |
| **Style and Format** | Writing is presented in appropriate style and structure. | Writing is presented in appropriate style and structure. | Some of the writing is presented in appropriate style and structure. | Writing does not match the intended style or structure. |
| *writing contains…*  **Writing Mechanics**  -spelling  -grammar  -punctuation  -capitals | -complete sentences  -correct spelling of key words  -proper caps & punctuation  -consistent verb tense  -subject verb agreement  -Correct style/ format (indents to begin paragraphs) | -complete sentences  -correct spelling of key words  -proper caps and punctuation  -Correct essay format (indents to begin paragraphs) | - complete sentences  - incomplete sentences (fragments)  -several instances of incorrect spelling of key words  -caps & punctuation errors  -inconsistent verb tense  -errors subject verb agreement | - incomplete sentences (fragments)  - incorrect spelling of key words  -caps & punctuation errors  -inconsistent verb tense  -errors subject verb agreement |
| **Creativity and Artistic Effort** | Assignment displays creative effort.  Artistic and imaginative attempts made.  Student has taken creative risks. | Assignment displays creative effort.  Artistic and imaginative attempts evident. | Assignment displays some creative effort.  Some artistic attempts have been considered. | Assignment displays minimal creative effort.  Artistic attempts have not been considered. |