

Mrs. Conner
8th Grade
Literature

Novel Projects & Activities

Four total projects per quarter: 3 fiction, 1 nonfiction

Fiction:

You must read at least ONE fiction book per quarter. You may read more if you wish. Your book does not have to be AR approved, but your book choice must be at your level. Your level is determined from the STAR test. There are thirteen fiction projects listed below. You must choose and complete THREE fiction projects per quarter. You may complete all projects/activities over one fiction novel or several novels.

Nonfiction:

You must read at least ONE nonfiction book per quarter. You may read more if you wish. Your book does not have to be AR approved or have chapters, but your choice must be at your level. There are three nonfiction options below, and you are to complete ONE nonfiction project per quarter from that list.

All projects are done over individual novels, not our whole-class novels. The novels of choice may come from the library, my classroom, home, or another teacher. You may not do the same project twice in a given quarter. Due dates for projects must be turned in by the dates given, but may be turned in anytime during the quarter. You must read the novel before completing the projects. You will pick ONE project to present to the class. This will be done towards the end of the quarter (date given later). Each project is 50 points and 40% of your grade. You are graded on creativity, effort, evidence of reading, relation to book, and neatness.

If the project is done on the computer, share the finished project to jconner@ges60.org. If it is done on paper or poster board, you must physically turn it in.

Fiction project options:

1. Expository Response

*Write one paragraph (you may write more) for each number below. Type this in Google Docs. Save your project as “Expository Respond- your name”.

1. Pick two characters and describe their character traits (3-5) and give an action to go with each trait
2. Make a connection between your life, our world, other texts, and the story
3. Summarize the plot elements

2. Slideshow

Create a slideshow presentation about your book and include a summary and literary elements. You will need: the author, book title, plot summary, characters, setting, theme, point of view, tone/mood, conflict, resolution, two quotes that are meaningful to the book, and 3 pictures (no more than 3). Create the slides in Google Slides. Include the website where you found your images or any information on the author. If you forget this, it is plagiarism and will result in a zero percent.

3. Storyboard Film Strip

Retell the story by creating detailed pictures of the story on each strip. You will need to use 4 film strips (3 on each, 12 total). Under each picture drawn, write a one paragraph summary explaining your picture.

*Paper creation: copy for you to print on Google Classroom

*Online creation: create this in Google Drawings and share with me when finished

4. Alternate Ending

Write a five paragraph creative, alternate ending to the story as one of the characters from your book. (you may write more) Write in first person point of view, telling the alternate ending as this character. Make sure to use facts from the book in your creative story. Type in Google Docs using typing guidelines.

5. Book Talk with Mrs. Conner (must be done in class or video chat)

Find a time to meet with Mrs. Conner to discuss your book. You will have five minutes to share information during this time to show the book was read and understood. You must find a time that works with Mrs. Conner.

6. Poster

*This can be done in class or online. If done out of class and online, take a picture and send it to my Gmail.

Create a book poster on a poster board. On this poster, include the following:

title, author, characters, short summary (1-2 paragraphs), setting map of the main setting, new cover for book (not the one given), acrostic poem with the protagonist's name. For the acrostic poem, use the first letters of one of the characters' names and represent something about that character, such as his/her personality, actions from the novel, thoughts, goals, likes/dislikes, what he/she looks like, etc. You must have more than one word per letter.

7. The Playlist

*This can be done in class or online. If done out of class and online, take a picture and send it to my Gmail.

Create a playlist or soundtrack that would be appropriate for the story.

Write 2 sentences explaining why each song was included. Also include a CD case with the track name and title of your soundtrack.

*paper creation: write and draw on a piece of computer paper

*online creation: use Google Docs and Google Drawings

8. Newspaper Article on Book Event

Create a newspaper article about a character who is wanted for one of their actions in the book. You can make up what the character is wanted for, but it must be based around an event that actually happened. This needs to be at 3 paragraphs (or more) and typed in Google Docs.

9. Cake Decorating

****This is a maybe due to COVID-19. Mrs. Conner will let you know if you are able to do this or not.**

Choose something from the book, character, event, setting, etc. and make a cake depicting it. You must bring it to class as part of your grade. Examples of props to use on cake: icing by itself, Tootsie Rolls, Gummy Bears, Rock candy, Bubble gum, Mike and Ikes. If you choose this, we must pick a day for you to bring into class. With your cake, you must also include a description paragraph explaining what is on your cake, how it relates to the book, and why you picked it. You must type this in Google Docs and bring with your cake.

10. Crossword Puzzle

*This can be done in class or online. If done out of class and online, take a picture and send it to my Gmail.

Create a crossword puzzle using characters and elements from the novel. Include a minimum of 20 entries. Create this on computer paper, Google Docs, or a crossword puzzle maker website.

11. Figurative Language

Find 10 examples of figurative language in your novel. Write the sentence, cite the page number, and type of figurative language. Type this in Google Docs.

12. Book Commercial

Create a book commercial using a recording device to record your voice. In this commercial, inform the viewer about the book. Be persuasive. Should they buy or read the book or not? In your recording, you want to discuss your book and convince the reader to read or not read this book by having good reasoning. This needs to be three to five minutes long. Send to me when completed.

13. Board Game

*This can be done in class or online. If done out of class and online, take a picture and send it to my Gmail.

Create a board game based on events and characters in the book that you read. By playing your game, members of the class should learn all about the book. Your game must include: a game board, a rule sheet with clear directions, events and characters from the book.

Nonfiction Project Options:

1. Summary

Write a two paragraph summary of the nonfiction novel. Include only the most important parts of the story, not every detail. Follow typing guidelines, type in Google Docs, and share to my email when completed.

2. Slideshow

Create a slideshow presentation about your book. You will need: the author, book title, summary, ten facts about the book topic, and three pictures (no more than three). Create the slides in Google Slides. Include the website where you found your images or any information on the author. If you forget this, it is plagiarism and will result in a zero percent.

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