

2017 Summer Reading Project – 9th Grade

Each incoming 9th grade student will read a book from the summer reading list, and complete a project related to the literature.

THIS PROJECT IS DUE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1st, 2017. LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE DEDUCTED 10 POINTS FOR EVERY DAY TARDY. THIS PROJECT IS WORTH 10% OF YOUR MARKING PERIOD 1 GRADE.

Requirements:

1. You may choose any book from the summer reading list. It MAY NOT be a book you have already read.
2. You will receive a list of a wide variety of projects to choose from.
3. Include the following information on your final project:
 - Your full name, date and section
 - Title of the novel and the name of the author
 - Assignment number (ex – Gold #1)
4. Project grades will be based on the grading criteria of the attached rubric. Note that the overall organization of the project is worth 15 points, content is worth 45 points, and the presentation is worth 40 points. **Written portions MUST be typed in Times New Roman, size 12 font, and double-spaced.** (If typing is not possible, handwritten assignments must be written neatly and legibly in blue or black ink.)
5. When choosing projects which involve drawing, you absolutely may NOT copy from the internet, Xerox, or trace the book cover or any pictures found in the book. This involves no creative thinking on your part whatsoever and will not be given credit. The exception to this rule is if you create a collage of pictures.
6. Even though certain projects may really appeal to you, remember to make sure the project you choose will work well with the novel you read.
7. All project options **require an accompanying presentation**. Be prepared to present in a professional manner to the class whatever project(s) you choose to complete! This presentation is ultimately a reflection of your understanding of the novel you choose, as well as a reflection of your overall preparedness. The presentation of your project(s) is worth 40 of the 100 total project points.

There are five levels of activities. Each assignment you complete gets a grade, but some assignments will take more effort than others, so they will be rewarded with more points. ****You may only complete *one* Bronze Level (two points) assignment.****

Here's the system:

Assignment Values: MUST ADD UP TO TEN POINTS (Though it can surpass ten points.)

BRONZE Activities = 2
SILVER Activities = 4
GOLD Activities = 6
PLATINUM Activities = 8
DIAMOND Activities = 10

Examples:

If you do one SILVER activity and one GOLD activity, that equals 10.

If you do one DIAMOND activity, that equals 10.

If you complete one GOLD activity and one PLATINUM activity, that equals 14, which surpasses 10 points but is acceptable.

*****Note:** You may not receive more than 100 points on this assignment. If your points total more than 10, the highest score you can achieve on the project is 100%

You must choose one of the following novels for your summer reading project:

1. *Half Brother* by Kenneth Oppel
2. *A Girl Named Disaster* by Nancy Farmer
3. *Marcelo in the Real World* by Francisco X. Stork
4. *Homeless Bird* - Gloria Whelan

BRONZE ACTIVITIES (2 points each)

- B-1 If you could change places with one character, who would it be and why? Your explanation should be at least one page, divided into paragraphs. Remember to describe the character and their situation well because your audience may not have read the book. Give EVIDENCE—examples of things the character has done or said that supports your description.
- B-2 Which character is most like you? Why? Your explanation should be at least one page, divided into paragraphs. Remember to describe the character well because your audience may not have read the book. Give EVIDENCE—examples of things the character has done or said that support your description. Also, give EVIDENCE of what it is about you that is similar to the character—these might be examples of things you have said or done.
- B-3 Choose one character, tell how they behaved/what they were like in the beginning, how they behaved/what they were like at the end, and how they changed. Your description should be at least one page, divided into paragraphs.
- B-4 Draw an important scene from the book. Your drawing will be scored based on how much detail is included. Make sure you somehow show who the people are in your picture. Remember to add COLOR.
- B-5 Make a collage of a major theme from the book. Use clippings from magazines, newspapers, etc. to cover the entire paper. The collage must be on a paper that is at least 11 by 14 inches in size and should include at least 10 different clippings. On the back explain in one paragraph what the clippings represent and what it has to do with your novel.
- B-6 Imagine your book is being turned into a movie—who would play each character? Name at least 5 characters and who would play them (explain in at least one sentence why and include a quote from each character that makes your point valid), tell where you would film the movie, and why.

SILVER ACTIVITIES (4 points each)

- S-1 Make a soundtrack for the book by choosing at least 10 songs. You may choose any kind of songs you wish. For each song, explain in at least three sentences why you chose the song and how it relates to the events or characters in the book. If the song you've chosen is not a popular one, you might include the words, or a description of the song, so your point is clear. (You can also quote from the book, of course.)
- S-2 Change the time and place of the novel. Explain how this would change the story. First tell where and when the novel takes place. Then tell where and when you would change it to. Focus on how the characters would be different and on how the plot (what happens) might change. For example, if your book takes place in 1920 and has a female character who is a nurse, you might change the time to 2006 and say that nowadays, a woman interested in medicine can be a doctor.
- S-3 Become one of the characters and describe your experiences during certain events that happened in the book. Your description should be at least one page. Write in the FIRST PERSON (using "I") and remember to use as many senses as possible in your description.
- S-4 Make a cartoon of the book or a chapter or a scene (at least 8 panels in full color with text).
- S-5 Write a song for a character. Include a one paragraph explanation after the song of why this song is appropriate for the character.
- S-6 Write an obituary for a character (must be at least one page in length, divided into paragraphs; look in a newspaper for examples if you need to).
- S-7 Draw a map (in color) of one place in the book, labeling landmarks and points of interest.

GOLD ACTIVITIES (6 points each)

- G-1 Write a letter to a character. Then, have that character write a letter answering back in the voice of the character (using words they would use and saying things they would say). Each letter should be at least one page, divided into paragraphs.
- G-2 Pretend you are a newspaper reporter and write out an interview with one of the characters (at least 10 detailed questions and answers).
- G-3 Write an original song about the book (at least 20 lines). Include an explanation (one or more paragraphs) of how the song relates to the events and characters of the book.
- G-4 Become a character and write a diary with at least 5 entries. Include events from the novel and how you feel about them. Write in the voice of the character (using words that they would use and saying things that they would say).
- G-5 Make an illustrated timeline of events in the book, make sure your timeline includes at least 10 events with a two sentence description and small picture or clipping describing each event.
- G-6 Make a character up! Imagine a character that was not in the book but that could have been. Write a conversation between this character and one of the existing characters (one page) and tell how the book would change with this new character (half a page).
- G-7 What could happen after the story is over? Write a brief summary (two pages, divided into paragraphs) of a sequel to the book (describe the main characters; tell what the plot would be).
- G-8 Write letters from one character to another, with the second character responding. Each letter should be one page, divided into paragraphs, and in the voice of the character.
- G-9 Redesign the front and back cover of the book, complete with a blurb and quotes on the back (these should be original and created by you!)
- G-10 Write a “Dear Abby” column with questions from at least four characters asking for advice and give your answers as Dear Abby (each should be at least a ½ page). (“Dear Abby” is an advice column in the United States; people write to her with personal problems, and she answers in her newspaper column, giving advice on how to deal with the problem).
- G-11 Get two different colored pens and choose a page from the book that you particularly liked. Begin by writing the first sentence from the page in the book in one color. Then add a sentence of your own in another color. Then go back and write the next sentence in the book. Continue alternating until you have finished the page. The sentences of your own can be reactions, or add to the action in the book in any way you like.

PLATINUM ACTIVITIES (8 points each)

- P-1 What do you think should have happened that didn't? Write a chapter that's missing in the middle of the book. This should be at least four pages, divided into paragraphs, and in the style of the book.
- P-2 What happened first? Write a chapter that comes before the book began. This should be at least four pages, divided into paragraphs, and in the style of the book.
- P-3 Pick two characters from different books (one from the summer book you read, and the other from a different book you have read). Describe a meeting between the two of them (where, when, and how it would take place) and write twenty or more lines of dialogue between them.
- P-4 Rewrite a section of the book from a different character's point of view rather than how it is written in the original book. This should be at least four pages, divided into paragraphs, and in the style of the book.
- P-5 Rewrite a section of the book with yourself as a character. This should be at least four pages, divided into paragraphs, and in the style of the book.

DIAMOND ACTIVITIES (10 points each)

- D-1 Act out and videotape several scenes from the book. The movie should last at least ten minutes. Present it to the class.
- D-2 Write and illustrate a full children's book telling the story of the novel you read. You need to include a front and back cover, a title page, and the story pages with illustrations. Make this quality work. Remember to include COLOR.
- D-3 Make a **whole** newspaper (NOT just the front page) about the book, with all a newspaper's parts--comics, advertisements, weather, letter to the editor, obituary, etc. (Look at a real newspaper and use it as a guide. All the articles need to be related to the novel – the character, events, setting, plot, conflict, resolution, etc.) Every part of the newspaper must be created by you.