*Independent Reading Project*

**Guidelines**

1. You will be required to complete an independent reading project. These will be read on your own. I will give you silent Independent Reading Project time several times throughout the semester as long as you come to class prepared when it is given to you. You will know the dates ahead of time.

2. You may choose any author you like as long as it is at your reading level. **I must approve of your book. If I do not, then you will not be able to read it. Each piece of literature must be at least 150 pages in length. There cannot be a movie already created about the book!!!**

3. **For your reading choice, you must turn in three parts**

**1. Book Report Form (Part A)**

**2. Reading Summary (Part B)**

**3. Creative Piece/Presentation (Part C)**

4. **In total this project is worth 150 points**

 Part A Book Report Form- 40 points

 Part B Reading Summary- 60 points
 Part C Creative Piece/Presentation- 50 Points

**5. Do not plagiarize or you will receive a 0 for the project!!!!**

6.I will keep a list of what books are being read. You must have your choice turned into me by Friday, October 5th. You may email me your choice at any time for approval. You CANNOT change books after this date!!!!!!

**Independent Reading Project Due Dates:**

* **Book must be chosen and approved by Friday October 5th**
* **Book must be read completely by Friday October 26th**
	+ **Turn in Part A (Book Report Form) and Part B (Summary) on Monday October 29th**
* **Part C (Creative Piece) Due on Wednesday November 7th (Presentations begin that day)**
	+ **You ONLY NEED TO CHOOSE ONE OPTION FOR PART C**

**Book Report Form (Part A)- Due Monday October 29th**

**Complete the questions for your book. (10 points)**

Your name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Title of Book:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Author:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Illustrator:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Type of Book (genre):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Sub-Genre of Book:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Number of Pages in the book:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Copyright Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Publisher:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Write and define five interesting words from the book. Include the page # for each word. (10 points)**

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**Answer the following questions about your book in complete sentences : (20 points)**

1. Why did you choose this book?
2. Setting (Where and when does the story take place?)
3. Who are the main characters?
4. Who is your favorite character? Why?
5. Which part of the book did you like the best? Explain why.

**Summary (Part B) Due Monday October 29th**

**Summary instructions:**

On a separate sheet of paper, you need to provide a summary of your book. **For each fifty pages of the book, you must write a paragraph**. ***The summary must be in your own words.***

*Do not plagiarize or you will receive a 0 for the project!!!!*

**Points breakdown for summary:**

1. Comprehension of story/Using details in your own writing. You should include the main ideas, major plot points, setting and conclusion of the book. **(40 points)**

2. Book Review- Include one paragraph where you review the book. Discuss what you liked/disliked about the book. Would you recommend the book to a friend? **(10 points)**

3. Punctuation, grammar, and spelling **(10 points)**

**Part C: Creative Piece**

**Choice #1**

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Movie Poster

Assignment: Imagine that the novel read was turned into a movie. Create a movie poster that reflects an important concept from the novel.

Upon completion, **students will present their movie poster to their class**. Students will attempt to convince their peers to come and support this new movie.

Requirements:

* + - You must have the title, tagline (catchy phrase), director, producer, and major actors displayed on the poster.
		- The tagline must be creative and refer to the concept reflected. For example, the tagline for the movie *The Green Mile* is: “Paul Edgecomb didn’t believe in miracles, until the day he met one.”
		- Artwork must be creative and there must be evidence of EFFORT!!!!!
		- ![MCj03193240000[1]]()On the back of the poster, you must write a paragraph that logically explains your concept and why you chose the actors that you referenced.

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Remember to turn this page in with your assignment!

Movie Poster Rubric

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| Teacher Name: **Mr. Washerstein**Student Name:     \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  |

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| CATEGORY  | **4**  | **3**  | **2**  | **1**  |
| **Focus on Topic****(Content)** | There is one clear, well-focused topic. Main idea stands out and is supported by detailed information. | Main idea is clear but the supporting information is general. | Main idea is somewhat clear but there is a need for more supporting information. | The main idea is not clear. There is a seemingly random collection of information. |
| **Support for Topic (Content)****(Details from Reading)**  | Relevant, telling, quality details give the reader important information that goes beyond the obvious or predictable. | Supporting details and information are relevant, but one key issue or portion of the storyline is unsupported. | Supporting details and information are relevant, but several key issues or portions of the storyline are unsupported. | Supporting details and information are unclear or not related to the topic. |
| **Adding Personality****(Voice)**  | The writer seems to be writing from knowledge or experience. The author has taken the ideas and made them “his/her own”. | The writer seems to be drawing on knowledge of experience, but there is some lack of ownership of the topic. | The writer relates some of his own knowledge or experience, but it adds nothing to the discussion of the topic. | The writer has not tried to transform the information in a personal way. The ideas and the way they are expressed seem to belong to someone else. |
| **Style**  | Appropriate sentence structure, transitions, tone, voice and vocabulary are used well throughout the writing.  | Appropriate sentence structure, transitions, tone, voice and vocabulary are used throughout the writing with some mistakes.  | Some appropriate sentence structure, transitions, tone, voice and vocabulary are used throughout the writing but with multiple mistakes.  | Inappropriate sentence structure, transitions, tone, voice and vocabulary are used throughout the writing or not used at all in the writing.  |
| **Grammar and Mechanics**  | One or fewer mistakes in capitalization, punctuation, formatting, and spelling.  | Two to four mistakes in capitalization, punctuation, formatting, and spelling.  | Five to seven mistakes in capitalization, punctuation, formatting, and spelling.  | Eight or more mistakes in capitalization, punctuation, formatting, and spelling.  |

**Part C: Choice #2**

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Two Person Filmed Interview

Assignment: On either YouTube or USB Stick, film a formal interview with either a character from the novel or the author of the novel. Make sure the interview is informative. Do some research. Based on the novel, how would the character/author answer your questions? For example, if the character is of a different culture, how would that person answer? Look up information on your author. For example, many authors have specific reasons for including certain concepts in their novels. In other words, show some effort.

Requirements:

* + - Video must be viewed during class so it must be on YouTube or USB Stick
		- Interview must be at least seven minutes in length. This means the actual interview must be seven minutes. You may add extras for creative purposes, but they would not be included in the seven minutes.
		- You must hand in a handwritten interview with a minimum of 10 questions.
		- If another person from this class participates in the interview with you, they can receive extra credit for their performance.

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Remember to turn this page in with your assignment!

**Part C: Choice #2**

Two Person Filmed Interview Rubric

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| Teacher Name: **Mr. Washerstein**Student Name:     \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  |

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| CATEGORY  | **4**  | **3**  | **2**  | **1**  |
| **Connection to Literature** | All important parts of the story were included and were accurate. The plot of the book is clear. | Almost all important parts of the story were included and were accurate. Most plot details were clear. | Quite a few important parts of the story were included and were accurate. Some of the plot details were clear. | Much of the story was left out or it was inaccurate. The details of the plot were unclear. |
| **Quality/Effort/Creativity**  | Interview is original, creative, and obviously well prepared beforehand. | Interview is original and well-written, with only a few errors. | Interview is mildly original, and has several errors. There may be little evidence of preparation. | Interview is not original and/or errors are excessive. There is no evidence of preparation. |
| **Quality of Media**  | Interview is clear (audio and video) with little or no shaking or obvious cutting/editing. | Interview audio and video is clear with one or two errors in cutting and editing. | Interview may not be clear with several errors throughout.  | Interview is nearly unwatchable due to errors. |
| **Technical Requirements and Research** | All technical requirements are met excellently. It is obvious a great deal of research was done beforehand.  | One requirement is not met and/or more research would have been helpful.  | Several requirements are not met. A very limited amount of research is evident.  | No requirements are met and/or little or no research was done.  |
| **Time**  | 7-7+ minutes used adequately for interview purpose.  | 7-7+ minutes sued, but some time was wasted on non-interview material. | 4-6 minutes were used for the interview.  | Less than 4 minutes were used for the interview.  |

**Part C: Choice #3**

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Book Jacket

Assignment: Design a book jacket for the novel. It should be original and not contain any copied elements or words from the original book jacket(s). Students will then be required to present their book jacket to the class.

Requirements:

*Front Side of Jacket:* Attractively and appropriately design and decorate. Must include title of book and the author.

*Back Side of Jacket:* Attractively and appropriately design and decorate. Must include all of the following:

* A short plot preview (one or two paragraphs: 4-6 sentences per paragraph). Do not give away the whole story but include the setting.
* References to the main characters (up to 3) with brief descriptions of each.
* A brief (at least one paragraph) critical assessment (your evaluation of the work – good points, bad points, recommendations, etc.)
* All parts of the jacket must be in your own words. It must also include correct spelling, grammar, punctuation, and mechanics.

It is helpful to study real book jackets. Pay attention to the way in which they reveal the elements you will need to include in your assignment.

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Remember to turn this page in with your assignment!

**Part C: Choice #3**

Book Jacket

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| Teacher Name: **Mr. Washerstein**Student Name:     \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  |

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| CATEGORY  | **4**  | **3**  | **2**  | **1**  |
| **Attractiveness/ Original Artwork****Artwork *MUST* be original to receive a score!** | The book jacket is exceptionally attractive in terms of design, layout, and neatness. | The book jacket is attractive in terms of design, layout, and neatness. | The book jacket is acceptably attractive though it may be a bit messy. | The book jacket is distractingly messy or very poorly designed. It is not attractive. |
| **Required Elements/ Following Directions**  | The book jacket includes all required elements and directions were followed accurately. | All but one of the required elements is included on the book jacket. | All but two of the required elements are included on the book jacket. | Three or more of the required elements are missing from the book jacket. |
| **Mechanics**  | Complete sentences, correct punctuation, capitalization, and correct spelling are always used. | There are three or less errors in correct use of complete sentences, correct punctuation, capitalization, and correct spelling. | There are four to eight errors in correct use of complete sentences, correct punctuation, capitalization, and correct spelling. | There are nine or more errors in correct use of complete sentences, correct punctuation, capitalization, and correct spelling. |
| **Creativity/ Effort** | Book jacket is extremely creative and shows superior effort.  | Book jacket is creative and shows effort.  | Book jacket is fairly creative and shows minimal effort.  | Book jacket lacks creativity and effort.  |
| **Content** **Content *MUST* be original to receive a score!** | Plot preview, setting, references, and critical assessment are written creatively and prove knowledge and research of novel and novel jackets.  | All of your elements are generally good, but could use more examples and details. It is evident that you have read the novel and did research on novel jackets.  | Your writing is fair and does not include enough examples or supporting details. It is somewhat evident that you know details from the novel and did some research.  | Your writing is too vague OR does not include examples or supporting details. It may not be evident that you read the novel or did any research.  |

**Part C: Choice 4**

**Book Trailer (Create a Video)**

Your assignment is to create a unique book “trailer” for your book. Like a movie trailer piques your interest in a coming attraction, your book trailer will supply basic background information and entice your audience to read the book for themselves. A good book trailer is no shorter than 90 seconds (one and a half minutes) and no longer than five minutes.

Your book trailer must include the following elements: (this is how I will score your work)

**Your trailer should also include:**

**In addition to the finished trailer, you need to submit a Book Trailer Planning Template and Storyboard:** <http://librarycggs.weebly.com/uploads/1/1/3/3/11330516/year_5_book_trailer_planning_template.pdf>

* A hook to pique your audience’s interest (make us want to finish your trailer)
* Author and title of book
* Brief summary of the book (don’t give too much away)
* One or two quotes from your book (these should be exciting, funny, or interesting)
* Description of the setting
* A “cliffhanger” element: a question to spark curiosity
* Credits for images, audio (sound effects and/or music, and to you for creating the trailer)

Be sure to consider the following elements:

* + Make sure text size, font and contrast are easy to read

In order to create this project, you can use any technology you wish. Some suggestions: iMovie, Windows Movie Maker, iPad, or your digital camera or cell phone. I understand that not everyone is well versed in movie making. My suggestion is to play around with the technology, look up movie making tutorials on YouTube, ask your friends and family for help, or scour the internet for solutions. This project will be much more fun if you teach yourself the technology!

* + Speed of information (images, text, etc) are paced appropriately

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| **CATEGORY**  | **SPIELBURG 5 points (well done)**  | page1image3472603904**RISING STAR** **4 or 3 points (pretty good, you’re on your way)** page1image3472081680 | **HOME MOVIE2, 1, or 0 points (needs improvement)**  | page1image3472091936page1image3472089888**SCORE** page1image3472092800page1image3472093344 |
| **CONTENT**  | Intro begins with a strong hook. Summary provides information without dominating the narration. Commentary is fresh, interesting and specific, with a strong conclusion.  | Intro is developed. Summary provides information, may extend too long. Commentary reacts to the novel with some detail. There is a conclusion. page1image3472238032 | Intro is weak or missing. Commentary lacks details or tells the plot. Conclusion is weak or missing  | page1image3471945280page1image3471945920 |
| **VOICE/SOUND**  | Interesting, well- rehearsed with smooth delivery that holds audience attention. Easy to hear narration over soundtrack. Voice sounds natural and helps convey meaning. Soundtrack adds to the tone/feel of the presentation.  | Rehearsed, with a fairly smooth delivery that usually holds the audience attention. Narration can be heard over the soundtrack. Voice sound natural and avoids monotones. Soundtrack neither adds nor distracts from the project.  | Delivery is not smooth, but holds audience attention most of the time. Narration may be difficult to hear. Voice shows little inflection. Soundtrack missing or distracting  |  |
| page1image3470320992**IMAGES**  | Images are crisp and clear, enriching and extending the details and meaning of the book/commentary. Images are appropriately cited and highly engaging.  | Images are relevant and support the book/commentary. Images are appropriately cited and illustrate the content/audience.  | Images are not relevant or as used mostly as decoration. Images may be grainy. They detract from the content or are inappropriate. Images may not be appropriately cited.  |  |
| **PRESENTATION**  | Makes excellent use of font, color, graphics, effects, etc.to enhance the presentation. All elements work together seamlessly to create an interesting and compelling report | Makes good use of font, color, graphics, effects, etc. to enhance to presentation. Elements are related, if not compelling, and overall effect is sound | Makes use of font, color, graphics, effects, etc. but they may detract from the presentation content. Elements may not complement each other and overall effect needs life  |  |

**Alternative Part C Options**

* Write a letter to the author (at least one page single spaced)
	1. Present your letter to the class
	2. Explain your feelings/ideas regarding the book
	3. Highlight any questions you still have
* Design and actually create your own t-shirt of an illustration from the book
	1. Must include a one page write up describing the illustration
	2. Explaining any symbolism/connection to the novel
* Write AND perform a ballad, song, or rap about the book
	1. Minimum of 2 minutes in length
	2. Must turn in lyrics on due date
	3. Should be used to entice your classmates to read the book
	4. Keep it appropriate!
* Design a diorama depicting an important event in the book, then explain to the class why the event is critical using your artwork