

Journey Through a Novel

Completed Project/Folder due December 8

My name: _____

My book: _____ by _____



In this project, you will demonstrate your ability to read and comprehend a novel, as well as your ability to write about it! You will be reading your novel in class and at home, and responding to it in a variety of ways. These responses are known as “artifacts,” and you will be keeping these artifacts in your very own novel folder.

This is also an exercise in FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS! This is not a complicated project, but there are several important directions that are given to you in writing on this very piece of paper. Follow them to receive an A.

At the end of the project, you will have a folder containing each of the following elements:
(USE THIS AS A CHECKLIST)

_____ Dictionary

_____ Thesaurus

1. ____ 2. ____ 3. ____ 4. ____ 5. ____ 6. ____ 7. ____ 8. ____ 9. ____ **Nine (9) Reader Response Entries**

_____ *Your reaction one-pager*

Part One: Vocabulary

1. Keep a novel dictionary (write the page number for each word that you do not know the meaning of). These can also be words specific to the book that OTHERS should know if they read it... example: “**Jabberjay**”- a type of mutation that consist of all male birds that were created in the capitol labs to spy on enemies and rebels of the Capitol.
You should have at least 15 words in your “dictionary”.
2. Keep a novel thesaurus (again, write down the page number). Make a list of 15 boring or overused words found in the novel. Rewrite each sentence from the book in which the word was found with a better one.

Part Two: Reader Response Activities

For every 20 page chunk of the book, you must complete at least one of the following activities. This means at the end of the novel, you will have 9 entries in your novel study folder.

- **All activities MUST be at least one page in length. If you choose to do complete an art prompt, you must use plain white paper (see me). Only TWO of your NINE prompts can be art prompts.**
- **Choose at least 2 Beginning prompts, 6 Middle prompts, and 1 End prompt.**
- **If you choose to do more than 9 prompts, you can receive bonus points on your final grade for this project.**

Continued on back →

Beginning of the Book Prompts (choose 2)

1. What does the title mean? How does it relate to the story? If you could give the book another title, what would it be?
2. **Draw an alternate (a different) cover for your book. In a well-written paragraph, explain why you drew what you did.**
3. Discuss how the main character is like a person or animal that you know.
4. Describe an experience that you (or someone else you know) had that was like the experience of a character in the book. How is it similar/different to the situation in the book?
5. Explain why you would like to have one of the characters as a friend. Why would you get along with the character? What do you have in common? What would you do together? Is the character someone that your parents would want you to hang out with? Why or why not?

Middle (or any part of the Book) Prompts (choose 6)

1. Explain how a character in the book changed or is starting to change in the section you are responding to. How do you know the character is changing/ has changed?
2. **Sketch a scene in the book depicting a part of the plot (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution) and explain why you chose to draw this scene.**
3. Describe a feeling or emotion that you experienced as you were reading this section and what caused this feeling. Was it because you could relate to the situation?
4. Write about a connection to another book you have read or a movie you have seen (think of similar characters, plots, settings and themes).
5. Write down a quote or passage that appeals to you. Describe why.
6. **Write any kind of poem about your book. (At least 16 lines)**
7. Explain how a character in the book changed from the beginning to the end. Give evidence from the book to support your answer.
8. Write a review of the novel... try to get someone else to read it.
9. Explain how you would make your book into a movie-- who would play the main characters, where would you film it etc? You must explain your choices.
10. Write a letter to the author of the novel about anything you would like to tell him/her.
11. Write an interview with one of the major characters. Then pretend you are that character and give the answers to the interview questions.
12. What problems did the major characters have and how did they solve them? Would you have done the same thing? What would you have done differently.
13. Write a biography of your main character.
14. Create a time line of the story. List at least 10 events from start to finish and write a brief description of the events. **OR Create a picture time line... Draw each of the 10 major events in the story and place them on a time line.**
15. **Draw/create** a lost and found advertisement for a special object in the book. Include a drawing, where it was lost, description of the item and perhaps a reward and contact information.

End of the Book Prompts (choose 1)

1. Should a sequel to this book be written? Why or why not? What might it be about? Write the first page of the sequel...
2. **Illustrate your favorite part of the story. Then in a short paragraph explain what is happening in your illustration and why it is your favorite part.**
3. Where will your character be 10 years from now? What will he/she be doing? Job, family? Where will he/she live?

Part Three: Your Reaction (after you finish the novel)

Write a one page reaction to the novel. In your explanation answer several, but not necessarily all, of the following questions...BUT DO NOT ANSWER THEM IN LISTY FORM! Organize your thoughts into logical paragraphs:

What do you think the theme of the novel was? Do you think that the author was successful in getting the message across? Why? For whom was the book written? What are the good and bad points about your novel and why? Did the novel help you in any way? Did you learn anything from the novel? What did you find most interesting? What did you find most bizarre? What was most believable or unbelievable? Would you recommend this book to anyone? Why or why not? Will you will read any more books by this author?

We have read over the Journey Through a Novel instructions and we know what is expected of me. We understand that it is a lot of work, but we understand that this project is due December 8, which means I have over one month to complete it both in class and at home.

_____ and _____
Parent signature **Student signature**