**Independent Novel Study**

**My novel choice:**

Over the next few months, you will be given class time to read, record, and plan for an independent novel study. You will choose a novel which you are personally interested in and complete five assignments throughout the semester. **Please note:** we will *not* be having reading periods during scheduled class time. You will be expected to work on your novel study independently and submit your assignments through Microsoft Teams on the scheduled due date, regardless of cohort.

**All of your work must be typed, 12pt. font, double spaced, and MLA formatted.**

The following is your due date outline for your novel study *(subject to change with notice)*:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Task** | **Due Date** | **Marks** |
| Choose a novel | Monday, March 15 2021 | *None* |
| Vocabulary Log | Monday, May 10 2021 | 20 marks |
| Guided Journal Question #1 | Tuesday, April 6 2021 | 10 marks |
| Guided Journal Question #2 | Monday, April 19 2021 | 10 marks |
| Guided Journal Question #3 | Monday, May 10 2021 | 10 marks |
| Final Creative Project | 1. Tuesday, June 1 2021 2. Thursday, June 3 2021 | 50 marks |
|  |  | **100 Marks** |

**Step 1: Select your novel**

**You must choose your novel by Monday, March 15 2021.**

Choose a grade 10 appropriate novel of any genre that is of interest to you. Read the first chapter to be sure you will be engaged throughout the remainder of the course. Once you have decided on a book, send a message to Ms. Walker on Teams to claim your choice. There will be no duplicates of books, so first come first served. You **cannot** change your mind once you decide on a novel.

**Step 2: Vocabulary and guided journal questions assignments**

**Vocabulary Log:** As you read your novel, choose a minimum of 10 words that are *unfamiliar or interesting* to you. Record the word, where it was found in your novel, and the sentence it was used in in your novel. Then, record the definition of the word and write it in a new sentence. Your vocabulary log is due **Monday, May 10 2021**.

**Guided Journal:** As you read, keep a reading log to record important moments, character development, plot twists, etc. You will have **three** guided journal questions to complete based on the beginning, middle and end of your novel. These journals must be **1-2 pages typed, 12pt. font, and MLA formatted**. Your journals must be written in proper paragraphs. See *Guided Journal Questions* sheet.

**Guided Journal Questions**

As you read your novel, you must keep a reading log of important plot points, characters, settings, etc., in order to successfully answer your guided journal questions. Your journal must be 1-2 pages in length, typed, double spaced, 12pt. font and MLA formatted. You must complete three journal questions.

Choose **one** question from each of the following sections:

**Guided Journal #1:** Due Tuesday, April 6 2021

Beginning of the novel:

* Name and describe the main character in the book. Describe the character physically and their personality, history, and any facts that you’ve learned so far. What is your first impression of the character?
* Name and describe a secondary character. Describe the character physically and their personality, history, and any facts that you’ve learned so far. Explain their significance to the plot and/or main character.
* Describe the relationship between two characters. Include their history together and the details of their relationship. Explain the significance of their relationship to the novel.
* Describe one important event in the novel and explain why it is significant to the story (plot, characters, ideas, etc.)
* What are your feelings and thoughts about the novel based on one or more specific parts of the novel you’ve read?
* Find one specific idea, event, or behaviour in the book that relates to real life. Explain how it relates to real life.
* Discuss a connection you’ve made with the story (text-to-self, text-to-media, text-to-world, etc.). Explain how your connection has helped you understand the story better.

**Guided Journal #2:** Due Monday, April 19 2021

Middle of the novel:

* If the time or place changes during the book, explain how and give examples. How does this switching serve the story?
* What is the general feeling or mood of the book? Give specific examples of how the author creates that feeling or mood.
* Discuss the importance or result of a conflict between:
  + Two characters
  + The main character and him/herself (internal conflict)
  + A character and their society
  + A person and an animal or environment
  + A person and a spiritual/supernatural being
* Who is the narrator of the story? What is the significance of this to the reader/understanding the story?
* Choose a sentence or phrase that you find interesting. Explain its significance to the plot or character development.

**Guided Journal #3:** Due Monday, May 10 2021

End of the novel:

* If there are any languages outside English used (dialects, foreign words, slang, etc.) provide examples and explain its use and purpose. What is its effect in the novel?
* Has the author used humor, irony, dramatic irony, symbolism, or metaphors? Provide examples and explain its effect in the novel.
* What is the climax in the novel? What major conflicts (rising action) lead up to it and what is the resolution afterwards?
* What is the theme or themes of the novel? How does the author show this idea? Provide evidence. Comment on how this theme fits in the novel and how to applies to life outside the novel. What does this theme mean to you?
* What did you learn from this novel? In answering this, you may comment on any aspect of the novel including how it was written.

**Step 3:** **Final Creative Project**

**Due** (A) Tuesday, June 1 2021 (B) Thursday, June 3 2021

Once you have completed your novel, you may choose which of the following ideas you would like to complete for your final creative project. You may choose to present your project to the class, however it is not mandatory for this project.

**Board Game:**

You will design and create a **playable board game** based on your novel. Your board game must include:

* Ability to be played by 2 or more people
* A fun and colorful playable board with character pieces, a form of interactive card game, etc.
* A way for players to win and lose (points, first one to get to X, etc.)
* Legible (or typed) writing
* Content specifically related to your novel:
  + Characters
  + Plot events
  + Conflicts
  + Themes
  + Settings

Your board game must be playable for **15 minutes** or more. You may choose to design your board game based on any of your favorite board game, such as *Clue*, *Monopoly*, *Trivial Pursuit*, *The Game of Life, Settlers of Catan,* etc. You must include a typed set of rules (and set up, if necessary) to accompany your board game. You will write a **2-3 page typed summary** of your board game explaining your design and content choices.

**Movie Proposal:**

You will create a **proposal, soundtrack, and promotional poster** to turn your novel into a movie. Your proposal must be a **minimum of 3-4 pages,** and must include:

* Name of movie (you may choose to change the name of the novel to suit your movie)
* Movie genre
  + What genre would your movie fit into and why
* Setting/filming locations
  + Where would this movie take place?
  + Where would you want to film the movie?
* Lead actors
  + For 3-4 of the important main and secondary characters, choose an actor you would want to play the character in your movie
  + Why have you picked each of the actors? Why are they a good fit for their character?
* Target audience
  + What is the target audience for your movie? Who are you trying to reach with the film’s genre, message, actors, etc.
    - Explain how these choices relate to your novel
* Plot changes
  + Write a short plot summary of your movie (1-2 paragraphs)
  + Explain any scenes you would change or remove from the novel to fit into a Hollywood film approximately 90 minutes long
    - How do these changes affect the overall message or plot of the novel?

Your soundtrack listing must include:

* At least **10 songs** from different artists
  + Include the song name and artist name
* Discuss which moments you would use each song for in your movie and why

Promotional poster:

* A catchy promotional poster which includes your film’s name, leading actors, a tagline, and an exciting image related to your movie

**Graphic Novel:**

You will rewrite your novel with illustrations using a **comic book format**. Your graphic novel will retell your story from beginning to end, using accurate information from the book such as key characters, events, situations, conflicts, and issues. Your illustrations **must be in color**, or *purposeful* black-and-white. You may choose to use a graphic software design programs to draw, or you may draw it yourself on paper. Your graphic novel must be ***at least* 10 pages long and include text**.

Your graphic novel must include:

* A title page
* Detailed, considerate, colorful drawings
* Typed or *very neatly* written text
* A condensed version of your novel
  + Beginning, middle and end
  + Important characters, plot, etc.
  + Must not change the novel

It is not necessary that you include every single event from your novel’s storyline in your graphic novel. You will need to carefully pick and choose which events are the most important to the overall theme and plot. Consider what makes a key event in a story:

* Reveals important details about a character
* Moves the main storyline along
* Creates or resolves conflict
* Reveals theme

**Novel Guide:**

You will write a student’s study guide to accompany your novel, much like Sparknotes or Cliffnotes. Your guide would be used to help struggling readers better understand what is happening in the novel. Your study guide must be *at minimum* **8 pages long** and include the following:

* Character profiles
  + A minimum **one-page profile** on *each* of the main characters summarizing their physical characteristics, age, gender, likes/dislikes, values, personality traits, interests, etc.
* Plot
  + A properly labeled plot diagram outlining *all* of the key events from the novel
* Setting
  + One to two paragraphs describing each of the settings in the novel
* Key vocabulary
  + A minimum of *10 different words* from the novel which may be interesting or difficult language
  + Include the word, it’s definition, and the sentence in which it is used
  + Include the page number where each word is found
  + You *may not* use words from your Vocabulary Log
* Chapter analysis:
  + Short chapter summary for **each chapter**
  + Discussion question for **each chapter**
    - One discussion question based on character development, theme, etc. for each chapter of your book
* Book quiz:
  + A minimum of 10 short answer questions and suggested answers to test readers on what is important in the novel. Questions cannot be answered with a *yes* or *no*. The questions should center on:
    - The characters and their development
    - Conflicts between characters, environment, society etc.
    - The importance of the setting to the story
    - What happens in the plot and the importance of key events
    - Theme or moral lessons in the novel