

BOOK TALK PROCEDURES AND PROJECTS

- Select an independent reading text that you think you will enjoy reading.
- Select a project from the list below to help you promote the book to others.
- Sign up for one of the available Book Talk Dates once they are posted. (You must commit to the book and the project. Any changes will incur a 3 point deduction.)

Prepare for your presentation:

- Make a plan for reading the book in plenty of time to prepare for your Book Talk
- Read the book completely
- Complete the Book Talk Organizer (it will help you present well)
- Create your project (Read the description of the project carefully.)
- Practice your speech (out loud, preferably with an audience)
- Be ready on the day your Book Talk is due

Project List The project you select should fit the story well and make it easy for you to include clear and specific details about the story. **All essay projects listed below must be typed and contain an introduction, at least two body paragraphs, and a conclusion.**

- Choose **at least 2 songs** that relate to the story. They might represent the main character, remind you of scenes in the novel, express feelings the characters experience, etc. Use an introductory paragraph to introduce the title and author of the book, provide a very brief summary of the story, and introduce the songs you have chosen. For each song, write a paragraph explaining how the lyrics relate to the story. Cite the part of the lyrics that relate to the story and provide at least two specific detail from the story to show the relationship. End with a concluding paragraph.
- Imagine that you are the author of the book and write a **letter to a movie producer** asking him or her to make your book into a movie. Write at least two well-developed paragraphs. Using details from the story, explain why the book would make a good film. Suggest a filming location and the actors to play the main roles. **Use details from the story to explain why your suggestions are good ideas. YOU MAY USE ONLY BOOKS WHICH HAVE NOT ALREADY BEEN MADE INTO MOVIES.**
- If the book you read has already been turned into a movie (must have been a book first), write a well-developed **essay comparing the movie version with the book**. Use an introductory paragraph to introduce the title and author of the book and movie, provide a very brief summary of the story, and a thesis statement summarizing how the book and movie compare. Using two or more body paragraphs, identify several significant changes and explain how the story was affected by the changes. You may also identify several significant similarities and explain why it was necessary or important to the story to keep those details unchanged. Each of your main ideas must be supported with details and explanations from the story. End with a concluding paragraph.
- In an essay, **compare and contrast two characters** in the novel. Use an introductory paragraph to introduce the title and author of the book, provide a very brief summary of the story, and a thesis statement summarizing how the characters compare. Using two or more body paragraphs, identify several significant comparisons. You may identify several significant similarities or differences. In each body paragraph, support your main ideas with details and explain why the similarities or differences are significant to the story. End with a concluding paragraph.

- Research descriptions of **astrological signs** (sun signs) and figure out which signs you think **three of the main characters** were born under. Begin with a brief introductory paragraph to introduce the title and author, along with the purpose of your project. For each character, write a one-paragraph explanation telling why you think that character fits the sign. You might use examples of their actions, attitudes, and thoughts from the book. Each paragraph must contain at least two specific details from the story to support your reasoning.
- Create **awards** for at least three main characters based on their actions. (Example: “Most Courageous” for the character who did not give in to peer pressure) Begin with a brief introductory paragraph to introduce the title and author, along with the purpose of your project. For each character, write a one-paragraph explanation telling why you think that character deserves the award. You might use examples of their actions, attitudes, and thoughts from the book. Each paragraph must contain at least two specific details from the story to support your reasoning.
- Analyze the **characters’ names** by selecting at least 3 of the characters and looking up the meaning of each of their names. You must do significant research of the names. Websites such as Urban Dictionary will not count for this project. Begin with a brief introductory paragraph to introduce the title and author, along with the purpose of your project. For each character, write a one-paragraph explanation telling why you think that character does or does not match the meaning of his or her name. You might use examples of their actions, attitudes, and thoughts from the book. Each paragraph must contain at least two specific details from the story to support your reasoning.
- Select at least **3 current news or feature stories** from TV news, newspapers or magazines that relate to the content of your book. Begin with a brief introductory paragraph to introduce the title and author, along with the purpose of your project. For each news story, write a one-paragraph explanation telling how the article relates to the story. You may use examples of characters’ actions, attitudes, and thoughts from the book or explain how the article relates to the setting, problem or theme of the story. Each paragraph of explanation must contain at least one specific detail from the story to support your reasoning.
- Select a main character from your book and then imagine arranging **meetings with 3 people**, living or dead, whom you would like those characters to meet. Begin with a brief introductory paragraph to introduce the title and author, along with the purpose of your project. For each person for your character to meet, write a one-paragraph explanation telling why you think the meeting would be beneficial or meaningful to the character. Each paragraph must contain at least two specific details from the story to support your reasoning. Explain what you would like the character to learn from the people you introduce them to.
- Do a jackdaw report by collecting a number of items (6 to 10) that represent important aspects of the book. In order to score full credit, items must **relate to and be used during** your oral summary of the book. Items must represent meaningful aspects of the story and be used to illustrate key ideas. Items may be symbolic and do not need to be exact replicas of items from the story. If items are shared after the summary is presented, half credit will be given.

I will consider additional creative presentation and project ideas as the year progresses. If you have an idea, please speak with me to get approval for your project.