

English 11

Independent Reading Project

Forms and Guidelines



Hawthorne



Irving



E.A. Poe



Dickinson



Alcott

Independent Reading Project Guidelines

1. You will be required to complete two reading choices during the semester (one per nine weeks). These will be read on your own; although, 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. (That means no “Goosebumps” books). **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, and there cannot be a movie on the book!!!**
3. For each reading choice, you must turn in 3 parts. 1. a book report form 2. a reading summary and 3. a project you choose. The book report form and summary instructions are included in this packet (lime green sheet). The independent projects you may choose from are included in this packet.
 - For the first nine weeks, you must choose one **Project A** to complete. These are included in the packet.
 - For the 2nd nine weeks, you must choose one **Project B (blue sheet)** to complete, **AND** you must complete one **Project C (gold sheet)**. You will be given these at the beginning of the second nine weeks or upon completion of the first reading choice.
4. For your independent reading project, you may choose from many types of literature. For at least one of your choices you must read a novel. For the other choice, you may read another novel, an anthology of short stories, an anthology of poetry or a play as long as it meets the 150 page requirement.
5. This entire project is worth 200 points. The first 100 points will be for your book report form and summary. The second 100 points will be for your two projects (50 points for Project B and 50 points for Project C). There is a rubric on the back of the project forms.
6. You must turn in the book report form and the Project A forms with your summary and your project.
7. I will keep a list of what books are being read. You must have your choice turned into me by Friday, September 2nd for the first nine weeks and by Friday, October 28th for the second nine weeks. **You CANNOT change books after this date!!!!!!**

Independent Reading Project Due Dates

These dates are absolute!!! This means that your project is absolutely due on that date and may not be turned in late. If you are unable to make it to school the day that the project is due, you must send it to the school with a friend or have a parent drop it off. You must contact me via email or my school phone if there are other circumstances. The only exception is if your home school is canceled due to inclement weather or last minute circumstances. If your home school is only delayed, you must still bring your project to me by the end of the school day.

Reading Choice #1 (Project A)

Due: October 14th

Reading Choice #2 (Projects B & C)

Due: January 6th

Basic Literary Genres (a type of writing):

- *Fiction- Stories that are not true*
- *Non-Fiction- True retellings of people's lives or events in history*
- *Poetry - Verse*
- *Drama- Plays*

○ **Fiction Sub-Genres:**

■ Fantasy

These stories contain elements that are not realistic such as talking animals, magical powers, medieval universes, and may possibly involve mythical beings.

■ Historical Fiction

These are stories that are centered around the basis of a partially historical situation or a novel set in a historical period.

■ Mystery (also known as Detective)

This is a story involving: strangeness, solving a puzzling event or situation, something unknown, solving a crime, centered around a person who investigates wrongdoing, centered around a person or persons employed to obtain secret information.

■ Realistic Fiction

These stories takes place in modern times, and characters are involved in events that could happen.

■ Science Fiction

These are stories that often tell about science and technology of the future. They involve true fictions, laws, or theories of science. They have settings in: the future, space, a different world, a different universe or dimension.

- **Action Adventure**

These are stories that feature physical action and violence, often around a quest or military-style mission set in exotic or forbidding locales such as jungles, deserts, or mountains. The conflict typically involves commandos, mercenaries, terrorists, smugglers, pirates, and the like. These stories include elements of technology, weapons, and other hardware.

- **Crime**

These stories are centered on criminal enterprise and told from the point of view of the perpetrators. They range in tone from lighthearted "caper" stories to darker plots involving organized crime or incarcerated convicts.

- **Horror**

These are stories that try to evoke some combination of fear, fascination, and revulsion in its readers. They often deal with religion, supernatural beings, medical and psychological ideas.

- **Romance**

Stories that feature the mutual attraction and love of a man and a woman as the main plot, and have a happy ending

- **Western**

Stories set in the American West in the second half of the 19th century, and feature heroes who are rugged, individualistic horsemen (cowboys).

Book Report Form

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)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Answer the following questions about your book: (10 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 (70 points)

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. Punctuation, grammar, and spelling **(15 points)**
3. Attractiveness and neatness **(15 points)**

Project B: Choice #1

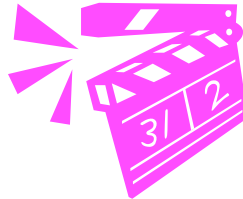
Name_____

Movie Poster

Assignment: Imagine that the novel read was turned into a movie. If it already has been, do not rely on that movie as a reference for your project. Act as if a new movie was being created. Create a movie poster that reflects an important concept from the novel. Creativity and thought count.

Requirements:

- Use a poster board supplied by your teacher.
- 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!!!!
- Computers may only be used for text.
- 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.



Remember to turn this page in with your assignment!

Project B: Choice #1

Movie Poster Rubric

Teacher Name: **Ms. Bielik**

Student Name: _____

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.

Project B: Choice #2

Name_____

Two Person Filmed Interview

Assignment: On either VHS or DVD, 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 VHS or DVD format.
- 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.



Remember to turn this page in with your assignment!

Project B: Choice #2

Two Person Filmed Interview Rubric

Teacher Name: **Ms. Bielik**

Student Name: _____

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 used, 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.

Project B: 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).

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.



Remember to turn this page in with your assignment!

Project B: Choice #3

Book Jacket

Teacher Name: **Ms. Bielik**

Student Name: _____

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Attractiveness/ Original Artwork Artwork <i>MUST</i> 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 <i>MUST</i> 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.

Project C

In addition to the B (gold) project of your choice, you must complete one of the items below.

- ❖ Write a letter to the author (at least one page single spaced)
- ❖ Do a dramatic reading of a scene from the novel in front of the class
- ❖ Prepare a television/radio commercial about the book
- ❖ Design a mobile from items related to the book
- ❖ Build a relief map of the setting of the story
- ❖ Design and actually create your own t-shirt of an illustration from the book
- ❖ Write and perform a ballad, song, or rap about the book
- ❖ Make a scrapbook using information found in the book
- ❖ Write a compare/contrast paper over two books or the movie and the book (at least one page single spaced)
- ❖ Write a newspaper article concerning some aspect of the book (at least one page single spaced)
- ❖ Make a test for the book (at least 25 questions with a completed answer sheet)
- ❖ Write a magazine review of the book (at least one page single spaced)
- ❖ Sketch a scene(s), character(s) or fashion(s) from the book with a two paragraph (5-7 sentences per paragraph) explanation of your drawing and how it relates to/is important to your understanding of the literature.
- ❖ Design a diorama depicting an important event in the book, then explain to the class why the event is critical using your artwork
- ❖ A creative project of your own inspiration that is approved by the teacher