

# English 12

## *Independent Reading Project*



*Shakespeare*



*Austen*



*Dickens*

# 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** to complete, **AND** you must complete one **Project C**. 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 independent project. 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 2<sup>nd</sup> for the first nine weeks and by Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup> 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 the project is due, you must send it to the school with a friend or have a parent drop it off. 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 14<sup>th</sup>

## Reading Choice #2 (Projects B & C)

Due: January 6<sup>th</sup>

## 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 A: Choice #I

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Literary Assessment

Assignment: Write a one-page assessment of the book covering what you feel are the main features or qualities of this book. What should someone who has never read this book be aware of? Think about not only what the author was trying to convey when assembling this paper, but what was conveyed to you personally. Include such things as literary devices, characterization, symbolism, archetypes, etc.

Requirements:

- Must be typed.
- Must be one page in length.
- Must be single spaced, no larger than 14 point font.
- Must be in Times New Roman
- Must have standard margins



**Remember to turn this page in with your assignment!**



# Project A: Choice #I

## Literary Assessment Rubric

Teacher Name: **Ms. Bielik**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
<b>Content</b>	Writer crafts his or her message by focusing on a central idea and elaborating with appropriate details in a well-organized paper.	Central ideas, elaboration, unity of details, and organization are near perfect, but there are a few mistakes.	Central idea is unclear or unsupported, some details are inappropriate or off-topic, or the paper is unorganized.	Central idea does not really address the prompt. Central idea is not supported.
<b>Introduction and Conclusion</b>	The introduction is inviting, states the main topic and previews the structure of the paper. The conclusion is strong and leaves the reader with a feeling that they understand what the writer is "getting at."	The introduction clearly states the main topic and previews the structure of the paper but is not particularly inviting. The conclusion is recognizable and ties up almost all loose ends.	The introduction states the main topic but does not adequately preview the structure of the paper nor is it inviting. The conclusion is recognizable but does not tie up loose ends.	There is no clear introduction of the main topic of structure of the paper. There is no clear conclusion. The paper just ends.
<b>Proper Use of Literary Elements</b>	Student gives and correctly uses at least 3 examples of literary elements to support his or her point.	Student gives and correctly uses at least 2 examples of literary elements to support his or her point.	Student gives and correctly uses at least 1 example of literary elements to support his or her point.	Student does not use literary elements.
<b>Style</b>	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.
<b>Grammar and Mechanics</b>	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 A: Choice #2

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Informative Essay

Assignment: Take an important concept, idea, theme, etc. from the novel and write an essay that provides a complete understanding of the concept. For example, when we read *Fallen Angels*, you could write about the concept of war or the theme of friendship.

Requirements:

- Must be typed.
- Must be one page in length.
- Must be single spaced, no larger than 14 point font.
- Must be in Times New Roman
- Must have standard margins



Remember to turn this page in with your assignment!

# Project A: Choice #2

## Informative Essay Rubric

Teacher Name: **Ms. Bielik**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
<b>Content</b>	Writer crafts his or her message by focusing on a central idea and elaborating with appropriate details in a well-organized paper.	Central ideas, elaboration, unity of details, and organization are near perfect, but there are a few mistakes.	Central idea is unclear or unsupported, some details are inappropriate or off-topic, or the paper is unorganized.	Central idea does not really address the prompt. Central idea is not supported.
<b>Introduction and Conclusion</b>	The introduction is inviting, states the main topic and previews the structure of the paper. The conclusion is strong and leaves the reader with a feeling that they understand what the writer is "getting at."	The introduction clearly states the main topic and previews the structure of the paper but is not particularly inviting. The conclusion is recognizable and ties up almost all loose ends.	The introduction states the main topic but does not adequately preview the structure of the paper nor is it inviting. The conclusion is recognizable but does not tie up loose ends.	There is no clear introduction of the main topic of structure of the paper. There is no clear conclusion. The paper just ends.
<b>Proper Identification and Explanation of Concept, Idea or Theme</b>	The writer clearly identifies a concept, idea, or theme and thoroughly explores it in the writing.	The writer clearly identifies a concept, idea or theme, but does not explore as thoroughly as is required.	The concept, idea or theme is there but is not clearly identified nor is it explored thoroughly.	There is no concept, idea or theme identified or explored.
<b>Style</b>	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.
<b>Grammar and Mechanics</b>	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 A: Choice #3

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Diary Entries

Assignment: Choose a character from the novel and write diary entries the way you believe he/she would have. You will need to write enough entries to meet the page requirements. Make sure to discuss all of the major events in the book in your diary entries. Make sure to put a heading on your entries telling which character you are using.

Requirements:

- Must be typed.
- Must be two and a half pages in length.
- Must be single spaced, no larger than 14 point font.
- Must be in Times New Roman
- Must have standard margins



Remember to turn this page in with your assignment!

# Project A: Choice #3

## Diary Entries Rubric

Teacher Name: **Ms. Bielik**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
<b>Focus on Topic (Content)</b>	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.
<b>Support for Topic (Content) (Details from Reading)</b>	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.
<b>Adding Personality (Voice)</b>	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.
<b>Style</b>	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.
<b>Grammar and Mechanics</b>	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.