

Rubric for Independent Novel Talk – AP Literature

Criteria	Excellent	Above Average	Average	Below Average
<i>Introduction attracts audience</i>	Exceptionally creative beginning with an excellent quotation; includes title and author	Creative beginning with a good quotation; includes title and author	Not a very creative or interesting beginning with a quotation; includes title or author	Not a very good beginning with no quotation; does not include title or author
<i>Maintains eye contact</i>	Always maintains eye contact and engages audience	Almost always maintains eye contact	Sometimes maintains eye contact	Never maintains eye contact
<i>Discusses the plot, setting, conflict, tone, major characters, connection to today</i>	Thorough and interesting summary of these elements	Somewhat thorough and interesting summary of these elements	Average summary of the elements	Does not summarize these elements or is missing a component
<i>Discusses the theme</i>	Discusses theme and makes an educated argument to support and elaborates on the importance	Discusses theme but fails to elaborate on the importance	Discusses theme but is not supported or not very thorough in elaboration	Does not discuss theme or makes a very general statement about the theme
<i>Progression</i>	Presents ideas with logical sequencing and seamless transitions	Presents ideas and information in sequence with clear transitions	Occasional lapses in logical sequencing or lack of transition	Transition between ideas is not evident
<i>Effectiveness/ Projected Audience</i>	Enthusiastically and clearly explains what is enjoyable about the book and the audience most suited for the book	Explains what is enjoyable and identifies the best audience	Does not explain what is enjoyable about the book or the best audience	Does not explain what is enjoyable about the book and does not identify the best audience
<i>Conclusion makes us want to read the book (or not read the book)</i>	Very enticing conclusion – draws the listener to read the book	Somewhat interesting conclusion- listener might want to read the book	Concluded but did not draw the listener to read the book	Very boring conclusion or no conclusion at all
<i>Demonstrates enthusiasm for the book</i>	Very enthusiastic and knowledgeable	Somewhat enthusiastic and knowledgeable	Shows average enthusiasm and understanding	Not enthusiastic at all
<i>Audible/ Presence</i>	Voice is clear, words are pronounced correctly and tempo is good; excellent body language	Voice is mostly clear and audible; pronunciation is mostly correct; body language is not distracting	Sometimes hard to understand; common words mispronounced; body language is occasionally distracting or inappropriate	Speech is too soft, mumbled, or too fast/slow; distracting or inappropriate body language
<i>Visual aid and Excerpt from the novel</i>	Visual aid is well done, colorful, and very helpful to the presentation. Excerpt is engaging, explained, and of appropriate length	Visual aid is colorful and helpful to the presentation. Excerpt is not engaging, not explained, or too long.	Visual aid is completed. Excerpt is boring and not explained, or too long.	Visual aid is very poorly done. Excerpt is boring, not explained, and too long.
<i>Stays within time limit</i>	Within time limit (3-5 minutes)			Too short or too long