**English 12 Independent Novel Assessment**

Character Sketch \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Novel Analysis \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Socratic Circle Discussion \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

-2 informal

-1 formal

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**Character Sketch**

We will work on this as we read the novels. I will give you some guiding sheets to help you plan your character sketch. We will complete the written task in-class.

* Choose a character from the novel and write a well-developed and supported *character sketch*.
* Remember to focus on *personality traits* and not physical characteristics unless those physical characteristics lend to their personality in some way.
* Use descriptors and make sure you support those descriptors with *quotes and/or specific support* from the novel.
* Also, consider if they are a *developing character and if so what do they learn/realize by the end*?

**Novel Analysis**

Once you have finished reading your novel you will complete one of the following tasks. This task is intended to help you thoughtfully consider one aspect of your novel.

*Setting Analysis*

* Choose a setting from your novel to analyse
* Choose 3 images to support your chosen setting
* *In paragraph form* explain how this setting contributes to the story
  + Consider:
    - Mood and atmosphere
    - Conflict
* Find 3 quotes from your novel which help explain your setting analysis
* Create and display this information in an interesting format

-Include:

* Setting title
* The 3 images (pictures, drawings, actual objects, etc.)
* A paragraph describing the setting in your novel
* A paragraph for each element you will explain related to the setting (mood and atmosphere)
* 3 quotes

*Theme Analysis*

* Create a theme statement for your novel
* Choose 3 images which help explain your theme
* *In paragraph form* explain why each image represents your novel’s theme
* Find 3 quotes from your novel which help explain your theme
* Create and display this information in an interesting format

-Include:

* Theme statement
* The 3 images (pictures, drawings, actual objects, etc.)
* A paragraph for each image
* 3 quotes

**Socratic Circle Discussion**

* As we read the novel you will come together in a group *twice to discuss informally* what you have read so far.
* Once you have finished reading your novel you will participate in a *formal Socratic circle* discussion with other students who read the same novel.
* You will be asked to generate questions and participate in a dialogue about your novel as well as observe another group.
* This discussion is intended to deepen your understanding of your novel with the help of your peers.

**Socratic Circle Discussions - Format and Expectations**

How often have you left a movie theatre after seeing a film with a friend and **not** talked about what you just saw? Book clubs or literature circles allow for that same valuable interchange, but about something we've actively read rather than passively watched. Talking with friends and peers about what we read enriches our experience with the book and helps us develop a better understanding of what we've read. We gain new insights into characters and events, come up with questions other readers may not have considered, and learn about ourselves and others through our unique perspectives and experiences.

* There are *three basic expectations* for all students regarding our book club discussions:

1. **Each student will participate.**
2. **No one student will be allowed to dominate.**
3. **Each student will come prepared**

* I will meet with each group as a "floating" participant and observer.
* A sophisticated group participant:
  + comes to the group with a passage to read and discuss;
  + initiates conversation;
  + builds on others' ideas;
  + includes others in the conversation;
  + listens respectfully;
  + takes turns;
  + **makes text-to-self connections;**
  + **makes text-to-text connections;**
  + **makes text-to-world connections**."

(from *Grand Conversations, Thoughtful Approaches* by Faye Brownlie)

\*Rubrics for all tasks can be found on my website.

\*No outside sources are permitted for these tasks.