

## Reading Program Written Final

**Step 1:** Complete a BOOK REVIEW of your book as directed on the backside of this handout.

**Step 2:** Select **TWO** of the following writing assignments to complete. Each assignment should be at least a page in length.

- Write a letter from a character in your book to a character in one of the works we've studied as a class this year. Include appropriate information that shows you clearly understand the personalities and situations of both characters. Be sure to include a date, heading, and closing.
- Write a newspaper article based on the book. It could be a news article relating the story's main event, a sports article detailing a big game, an editorial about a theme or issue in the book, or a feature story on a person or organization. Be sure to capture the tone of journalistic writing and include a title, byline, and staff line.
- Write a letter of recommendation for a character for a job, *Time* magazine's "Person of the Year," or some other award. Follow formal business letter format.
- Write an interview with a character, either with you as the interviewer or someone else as interviewer. Write up the interview in script format.
- Write a dialogue between two characters from two different independent reading books you've read this year. Write the dialogue using quotation marks intertwined with narrative. Be sure to punctuate appropriately.
- Write two literary biography poems using two main characters from your book.

Line 1:	first name
Line 2:	four descriptive adjectives
Line 3:	son or daughter, or sister or brother of ....
Line 4:	lover of .... (these are people, things, places, ideas)
Line 5:	who feels.... (three phrases describing feelings—parallel construction)
Line 6:	who fears.... (three verb phrases—parallel construction)
Line 7:	who would like to see... (three things happen in the future—parallel construction)
Line 8:	resident of ....
Line 9:	family name (last name)

- Write a found poem using your book as your text. Be sure to give it a title.
- Write a eulogy or an obituary for a character. Be sure to follow proper conventions for these types of writing.
- Write a psychiatrist's report on a character from your book. Use the proper tone and conventions for this type of writing.
- Write a series of diary entries from a character's perspective.

**Step 3:** Make a cover page on a regular size sheet of paper which includes your name, the date, the class, the teacher's name, the class period, the name of the book on which you are reporting, the book's author, and some type of graphic or visual.

**Step 4:** Staple your written final with the cover on top, the book review second, and the two creative writing assignments on bottom. Please *be neat*, and please *proofread all your work carefully* before turning it in!!

**DUE DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ . No late work will be accepted.

Ms. Bryan

## Reading Program Final projects Term 2

Select one of the following projects to do for your independent reading final. Projects are due on \_\_\_\_\_ and will be presented to the class on \_\_\_\_\_. Use your project to tell us about your book. Please prepare ahead of time what you will say in your presentations. Plan to speak for 2-4 minutes. (A minute is not long enough, and five minutes is too long: I suggest you time yourself, as points will be deducted from your grade for poor presentations.)

1. A scrapbook covering the life and times of the central character in your book. Include pictures, awards, notes, souvenirs, and more, and be sure to include descriptions/explanations of the items in your book.
2. A game board that reveals characters, plot, and interesting twists of the story. Include the board, playing pieces, question/answer cards, game rules, and more!
3. A one-act play based on the book. Pick a crucial scene, rewrite it into a script, recruit your friends, and act it out!
4. A talk show that features several characters from your book as guests. You'll need a script and some help from your friends for this one as well.
5. A soundtrack that goes with the life of one of your main characters. Take us through the plot of your story in song. Make a CD, a CD cover, an insert which includes the lyrics to the songs and a brief written explanation of why you chose the songs you did.

Do you have other original ideas that you think would make great projects? If so, please ask! I love to hear new ideas and would love to have you take the initiative to create your own project.

**Do good work and have fun.**

## **Oral Book Report Project Reading Program Final Exam**

California Content Standards, Listening and Speaking Strategies 1.0 (with Benchmarks 1.3—1.9)

*Your oral book report project will take the form of a persuasive speech. Choose from one of the following options:*

1. You are giving a presentation to the schoolboard. Convince the schoolboard members they should adopt your book as required reading for 10<sup>th</sup> grade literature.
2. You are having a meeting with Oprah and all her top people, who are planning to start a book club for young adults. Convince them that your book would be a great selection for the first Oprah book: YA edition.
3. You are presenting at a meeting of high-powered movie executives. Convince the movie studio that they should buy the movie rights to your book.
4. You are promoting your book to a group of publishers who are interested in publishing it. Convince them that this book would be a bestseller!
5. You are presenting to a group of your peers who have been hand-selected from across the country to review and recommend young adult books. Convince your peers that your book should be the committee's top recommendation.

\*Other speech ideas? Please see me!

***Please read the following guidelines carefully.***

- Your speech must be between 3 and 5 minutes long. I will be very strict about this. Time yourself and know precisely how long your speech will take.
- A written copy of your speech is due on the day of your presentation. It should be final-draft quality.
- Do not read your presentation. Use notecards if you need help remembering your speech.
- Don't bore us. Plan an exciting speech. Vary your voice to keep your audience interested.
- Speak clearly. Do not mumble. Talk loudly enough and slowly enough for us to hear and understand.
- Don't say "um," "like," "you know," or other filler words. Be articulate.
- Don't chew gum while you are speaking.
- Dress professionally and act professionally.
- Make appropriate adjustments to your tone depending on your audience.
- Make eye contact with your audience.
- Use specific information from your novel to persuade your audience. Key passages are usually very effective.
- Use good posture. Don't fidget.
- You are welcome and encouraged to use props, handouts, technology, or anything that enhances the quality and persuasiveness of your speech. Please be sure you plan ahead.

## Oral Interview Questions

### General

1. What feelings did you have about the story as you read it? What emotions did you feel?
2. Were you excited by it? Why? Bored? Why?
3. Were there things in the text that you had trouble understanding? What?
4. What memory did the story call to mind for you—of people, places, events, sights, smells, or even of feelings, attitudes, or beliefs?
5. What seems to be important in the story? Or who is most important and why?
6. If you could rewrite part of the story, which part would it be? Why, and how would you change it?
7. What is there in this story that you have the most trouble understanding, relating to, making sense of, believing, or accepting?
8. Did you feel involved in the story, or distant from it?
9. Did the story remind you of any other literary work (poem, play, film, story, novel)? If so, what is the work and what is the connection?
10. Overall, do you think the story is a good one? Why or why not? Would you recommend it?

### Literary Elements

1. Who is the main character? What is he/she like?
2. What did you think of him/her? Did you agree with decisions he/she made?
3. Did you find the main character realistic and believable? What about other characters?
4. Who was your favorite character in the story and why?
5. If you had to cast someone in the role of a movie that was being made of your book, who would you choose for the main character(s) and why?
6. What character in the story is most like you? In what way?
7. Is there a character which serves as a foil to the main character? Tell me about him/her.
8. What is the setting? Could you envision the setting in your mind as you read? What helped you to do that or kept you from that?
9. What do you think is the climax of the novel? Why?
10. From whose point of view is the story told? Did you like it told in this way? How would the story have been different if someone else had told it?
11. What kinds of conflict can be found in the story? How are those conflicts resolved?
12. Are there any other literary elements or devices (theme, tone, foreshadowing, irony, figurative language) that the author used that you can identify?

### Miscellaneous

1. Compare the story/novel to others you have read.
2. Have you seen the movie version? Explain the differences.

## Book Club Homework

This weekend, and nearly all the coming weekends, your homework is to write a letter to your book club members about the book you are currently reading. These letters will be shared first thing Monday in your book club.

Each week you will write a letter responding to a prompt given on Friday. You should use a friendly letter format, including the date. Your letter should include the title, author, and a rating of the book. On the first Monday of book club you and your book club will develop a rating system so that you all know how good each other's books are. Your book club letters should include a closing and signature as well.

For this first week your letter should discuss a main character in the book. Tell what he or she or it is like. Have you ever known any one like this character? Is this character thoughtful or selfish? What are his or her good traits? What weaknesses does he or she have? Has this character changed during the course of the book? Would you want this character for a friend? As a dinner companion? If you can, find a passage from your book that shows your character.

Also as a member of a book club you need to think of good questions to ask the other members of your group after they have read their letters. This will be easier if you listen closely and pay attention while they are reading.

Finally, here is a sample letter for a book you are probably all familiar with that should give you an idea of what to write.

14 September 2001

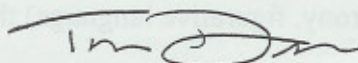
Dear Book Club Members,

I am reading *Little Red Riding Hood* by Aesop. This is a fairy tale so obviously it is fiction. I am enjoying it very much so I would rate it 4 stars. It doesn't get the full five because I found one of the characters underdeveloped.

But I am going to write about a character I did like, Red. She is like a lot of kids I know, she means well but doesn't think of what is happening or doesn't listen to the warnings of others. She is sometimes thoughtful and sometimes thoughtless. Red is going to her grandmother's house with goodies to cheer her up, which is a pretty thoughtful thing to do. However, she goes off the path to pick flowers, which her mother told her not to do, and she talks to strangers, which her mother also told her not to do. This doesn't show much thought, especially when the stranger is a wolf! To make matters worse, she tells the wolf how to get to dear old Granny's house, thereby setting up the biggest problem of the story. I won't tell you what that is; I don't want to ruin the story for you.

In spite of her faults, I like Red. She didn't mean to cause anyone any harm. She just didn't think about the consequences of her actions. She does learn from her mistake, but it is too bad that she didn't listen to her mom. Then all of the tragedy could have been avoided.

Sincerely,



Tim Dewar

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14 September 2001

Dear Book Club Members,

I am reading *Little Red Riding Hood* by *Brody*. This is a story that is about a girl who

is a very beautiful girl who is very kind and she is very smart and she is very brave and she is very

she is very brave and she is very smart and she is very kind and she is very beautiful and she is very