

Grade 9 English: Independent Novel Study #1 (Fiction)

Objective:

- To demonstrate your understanding, analysis, and personal response to a novel of your choice through a variety of creative and critical thinking activities.

Requirements:

- Choose one fictional novel (approved by Mr. Beaton).
- Complete the tasks below by the assigned due date.
- You will be graded on comprehension, depth of analysis, effort, and creativity.

Part 1: Novel Information (Included in the presentation)

- Fill in the following:

Title: _____

Author: _____

Genre: _____

Pages: _____

Date Started: _____

Date Finished: _____

Part 2: Reading Journal (5 entries - ALL to be submitted & included in the presentation)

Write **five reading journal entries** at different points in the novel (beginning, middle, end). Each entry should be **8–10 sentences** and include:

- Summary of the events or developments
- Personal reaction (What do you think? How do you feel?)
- Predictions or questions
- Notes on characters, setting, or themes

Part 3: Literary Analysis (Included in presentation)

Complete **ALL** of the prompts below and answer each in well-developed and complete sentences/explanations.

1. **Character Analysis** – Choose a main character and describe how they change (or don't) throughout the novel. Provide evidence.
2. **Theme** – Identify a major theme in the novel. Explain how the author develops it through characters, events, or symbols.
3. **Conflict** – What is the main conflict? How is it resolved? Was the resolution satisfying?
4. **Setting & Mood** – How does the setting influence the mood or tone of the novel?
5. **Author's Style** – Describe the author's writing style. Is it formal, humorous, descriptive, emotional, etc.? How does this affect your reading?
6. **Point of View** – What point of view is the novel written in? Why do you think the author chose it?

Part 4: Key Elements/Aspects of your Novel (Included in the presentation)

Complete **ALL** of the prompts below and answer each in well-developed and complete sentences/explanations.

- **Brief summary of the Plot:** This should provide a concise overview of the main events in the novel. Focus on the key plot points without revealing too many spoilers.
- **Pro Tip:** Complete this section last to ensure you include all relevant information from the study.
- Identify and explain any symbols or recurring motifs in the novel. This could include objects, colors, animals, or repeated phrases that hold deeper meaning.
- **Key Event 1:** Describe a significant event in the novel and explain how it drives the plot forward.
- **Key Event 2:** Identify another turning point in the story and discuss its significance to the main character's journey.
- **Strengths:** What are the strengths of the novel? Consider elements like writing style, character depth, plot development, or thematic exploration.
- **Weaknesses:** What are the weaknesses of the novel? Is there any aspect (plot hole, underdeveloped character) that detracts from the story?
- **Author's Purpose:** What do you think the author's message or purpose is in writing this novel? How well do they convey this to the reader?

Part 5: Creative Project (Presented to the class)

- After you've completed reading your novel, you will compile **parts 1, 2, 3, and 4** into some type of presentation (Google Slides, Video, etc.) that you will share with your classmates.

Part 6: Final Reflection (1 page minimum - to be submitted ONLY)

Write a **reflection**: 1 well-developed page (or 2 max) on your experience reading this novel.
Consider:

- Did you enjoy the book? Why or why not?
- What did you learn from the story?
- Would you recommend it to others?