

English 8 – Independent Novel Study: Non-Fiction

Assignment Overview

You will independently read a **non-fiction book** of your choice and create a presentation that demonstrates your understanding of the text, its central ideas, and its real-world significance. Your goal is to **inform**, **analyze**, and **engage** your audience.

Book Selection:

Choose a **non-fiction book** that:

- Must be **non-fiction** (biography, memoir, history, science, true crime, social issues, self-development, etc.)
 - Minimum length: **250 pages** (unless otherwise approved)
 - Must be approved by Mr. Beaton before beginning
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Presentation Dates (Due Dates):

- The week of **Monday, March 23rd – Friday, March 27th**
- Presentations should be between **7-10 minutes** in length.
- There will be a sign-up sheet available at the **end of February** to determine the order of the presentations.

Presentation Requirements

Your presentation must include the following sections:

1 Book Overview

- Title and author
 - Genre/type of non-fiction
 - Brief summary (no more than 2–3 minutes)
 - Author's background and credibility
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2 Central Ideas & Purpose

- What is the main argument, theme, or message?
 - What is the author trying to teach, prove, or explain?
 - Why did the author write this book?
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3 Key Insights & Evidence

- **3–5** important facts, events, or ideas from the book
- At least **2 meaningful quotations** (explained in your own words)
- How does the author support their ideas? (research, interviews, personal experience, data, etc.)

4 Personal Reflection

- What did you learn?
- Did this book change your thinking about the topic?
- What surprised you most?
- Would you recommend it? Why or why not?

5 Real-World Connection

Choose at **least two**:

- Connect the book to a current event
- Connect it to something happening in society today
- Relate it to your own life or experiences
- Compare it to another text, documentary, or topic studied in class

Assessment Criteria:

You will be evaluated on the following:

- Understanding of the text
- Depth of analysis and reflection
- Use of evidence from the book
- Organization and clarity
- Effort and completion