**English 8: Graphic Novel Literature Circles**

Our next unit is going to be literature circles. You will have your choice from several book options. We will complete a few different activities and discuss the books in groups on an ongoing basis. There will be a culminating assignment where you will demonstrate your understanding of the novel.

**Book Options**

* *Snapdragon* by Kat Leyh
* *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander
* *Long Way Down* by Jason Reynolds
* *Nothing Can Possibly Go Wrong* by Faith Erin Hicks and Prudence Shen
* *The Nameless City* by Faith Erin Hicks
* *Sheets* by Brenna Thummler
* *The Golden Hour* by Niki Smith
* *Estranged* by Ethan M. Aldridge
* *Scout is Not a Band Kid* by Jade Armstrong

Group numbers will range from a minimum of three group members to a maximum of five group members. That means that if not all books have at least three people who would like to read them, that book might not run as a group option. You will have the chance to give your top options, and Ms. Legault will put you into groups. Be aware that you may not be able to get your top choice for a variety of reasons. **Once groups have been decided by Ms. Legault, there will be no changing of groups.**

My book: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Fill this out once you have been assigned your book.)

Group Members:

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Schedule

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|  |  |  |  | Introduce Unit and Graphic Novels, Book Talks |
| Receive Books  Read ¼ of book  Elements Practice | Reading Time – ½ of Book  Character Discussion  Lit Circle Meeting | Reading Time ¾ of Book  Words vs. Pictures Storytelling | Reading Time – Finish Book  Imagery in a Graphic Novel vs. Prose | Pro-D Day |
| Victoria Day | Introduce Project | Final Book Discussion  Work on Project | Work on project | Work on project |
| Work on project | Project Due |  |  |  |

**Assignments:**

Informal:

* Class Activities
  + Reading Elements Video (Individual)
  + Character Sheet (Individual)
  + Words vs. Images Reflection (Group)
  + Panel Drawing (Individual)
* Discussion Preparation (Individual)
  + Two quadrant responses – one at the first half of the novel, and one at the end
  + Two paragraphs reflecting on the group discussion

Summative:

* Demonstrate your understanding of the graphic novel’s elements by showing each of them in a different way. (Individual) – see the handout for more information

**Discussion Questions:**

**Meeting 1:**

1. What is the setting of the book? How does it add to or take away from the story?
2. How does the character remind you of yourself, another character, or someone you know?
3. What is the main conflict in the story? Can you relate to the main character’s conflicts or problems? Why or why not?
4. What motivates the main character’s actions? Do you think those actions are justified or wise?
5. Are there any quotes or passages in the book that inspire you? Which ones? Why?
6. Are there any characters or events that remind you of another book? Explain.
7. Do the characters or events connect to people or events in our world?

**Meeting 2:**

1. What do you think the author wants you to learn from reading this story?
2. Which character do you like the most? Why? Which character do you like the least? Why?
3. At what point in the book did you decide if you liked it or not? What helped to make this decision?
4. Explain how the title connects to the story.
5. How does the main character change throughout the story?
6. Do you like the resolution? Why or why not?
7. Are there any quotes or passages in the book that inspire you? Which ones? Why?
8. Was the story predictable or surprising? Explain.

**Four Quadrant Reading Response – 1**

**Directions:** Fill out the following chart as you read and prior to your discussion of the first half of the book.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Visual**  (draw or describe a specific character, setting, or event) | **Language**  (record important or interesting words or phrases) |
| **Emotional**  (write about feelings) | **Questions**  (record questions or “I wonder” statements) |

**Post-Discussion Reflection:**

**Directions:** After you have met with your group to discuss your book, record some notes about what was discussed in the space below.

* What do your group members think about the book?
* What was specifically discussed?
* What connections have been made?
* Etc…

**Four Quadrant Reading Response – 2**

**Directions:** Fill out the following chart as you read and prior to your discussion of the second half of the book.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Visual**  (draw or describe a specific character, setting, or event) | **Language**  (record important or interesting words or phrases) |
| **Emotional**  (write about feelings) | **Questions**  (record questions or “I wonder” statements) |

**Post-Discussion Reflection:**

**Directions:** After you have met with your group to discuss your book, record some notes about what was discussed in the space below.

* What do your group members think about the book?
* What was specifically discussed?
* What connections have been made?
* Etc…

**Graphic Novels Lit Circle – Summative Assignment**

In this final, summative assignment of our lit circle unit, you will be tasked with demonstrating your knowledge and understanding of your assigned novel. You will represent elements of the novel in unique ways. These assignments will be completed individually, and each will represent a different element of the graphic novel you read.

For each of the four assignments, you will cover one of the following elements:

* Character (who is in the story?)
* Plot (what happens in the novel?)
* Theme (what is the lesson/message of the novel?
* Setting (where and when does the novel take place?)

To show these elements you must complete:

1. **A Piece of Music** – this can be original: you can write it, perform it, take a video of it, do a cover, or it can be someone else’s song. You will submit the song along with an explanation of why it goes with the topic you have chosen.
2. **A Piece of Art** – This can be functional or not. You can build it, dance it, carve it, paint it, sculpt it, weave it, etc. Please include an explanation of why it goes with the topic you have chosen.
3. **A Written Piece** – This can be poetry, or prose (a story, a report, or an essay, etc.).
4. **An Oral Assessment** – This can be presented to the whole class, to Ms. Legault privately, or submitted as a video.

**Requirements:**

* Times New Roman, 12-point font
* Double-spaced
* You must be very clear in your presentation about which of these four aspects of the novel you are representing.
* You must complete all four tasks and represent all four elements.
  + For example: Johnny chooses a piece of music to represent a character, creates a piece of art to depict the setting, writes a report on the theme, and does a video about the plot of his graphic novel.
  + It does not matter what you choose to represent the element, as long as you are demonstrating your understanding of the novel.

**Due Date:** May 30th, 2023

Physical assignments can be handed in to Ms. Legault or the hand-in bin, depending on the size. Digital assignments should be submitted via Google Classroom.