**Non-Fiction Unit Instructions – English 112 (Mrs. Parker)**

1. Choose a non-fiction novel to read. As you read you will make notes that will be handed in and graded. You need to have a minimum of 10 entries of notes. This serves many purposes: keeps you on track so you will be finished the novel by the due date, hopefully keeps you honest about reading the book, lets me know your thoughts on the book, and you will have notes to help you with another project that you will be doing with the book. (Please see list of ideas that are attached). You need to have your novel finished and your notes made by the beginning of class on\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. You will be writing a narrative poem about the book. Here is a very simplified definition of a narrative poem according to dictionary.reference.com: “a poem that tells a story and has a plot.” I would add that a narrative poem is usually fairly long and is written in meter. You can usually hear the “voice” of a character. A narrative poem has a character, setting, conflict and plot. We will read some examples of narrative poetry. You should be aware that you will need to share your poem with a peer. I will be picking the peer and they will give you feedback on your poem before you pass it in to me. The draft copy of your narrative poem will need to complete by the beginning of class on\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
3. You will be writing a research essay that deals with a topic that is related to your novel. The research essay will be 2-3 pages in length and will have to include references to your novel and to other research from a reliable article. We will be working on the essay on the week of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I will give you a due date closer to the date.
4. You will be presenting a book talk about your book. Your book talk will be graded on the rubric provided. I will explain this more in depth closer to the due date. You will also be presenting your book talks the week of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I will draw names closer to the date.
5. There might be days in class that you will be asked to have discussions about your book with other people in the class, or do a little writing activity. You will be marked on these activities as well.

**\*\*\*Marks will be deducted if you are not reading in class when you are supposed to be.**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ideas for writing about your novel:

1. Quote that I like and the reason why
2. Something important
3. Something interesting
4. Something I have a question about
5. I wonder why…
6. The narrator’s voice shows here because…
7. This part shows the author’s message….
8. I don’t understand this part….
9. Something funny, sad, scary…
10. Your choice….
11. Plot
12. Character
13. Setting
14. Theme
15. Conflict

Each entry in your Writer’s Notebook should include:

Today’s Date:

Page #s:

Comments:

\*\*\*You might want to use post it notes for important quotes, as this would be useful when you write your research essay and narrative poem, and possibly for the book talk.

Book Talk Instructions:

You need to discuss:

1. Author’s name
2. Title of the book
3. Interesting summary
4. Author’s message
5. What you learned from reading the book
6. What you liked about the book and what could have been better.

Book Talk Rubric:

5 4 3-0

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| All components were present |  |  |  |
| The book talk is presented in an interesting and organized way |  |  |  |
| Presentation was clear and audible; presenter seems confident and knowledgeable about their book |  |  |  |
| **Total: /15** |  |  |  |

English 112 Period 1 Narrative Poem Rubric

3 2 1-0

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Spelling and Grammar | There are almost no spelling or grammar errors | There are a few spelling or grammar errors | There are many spelling or grammar errors |
| Figurative Language | There are a minimum of 3 examples of figurative language | There are only 2 examples of figurative language | There is 1 or no examples of figurative language |
| Organization and Plot | The poem has an introduction, middle and ending. It has stanzas. It has a title. | The poem is missing some of the plot, or it is not written in stanzas, or it is missing a title | Several elements of plot and organization are missing |
| Character | The poem has a well-developed character that shows his or her character traits through dialogue, inferences, or direct words. | The poem’s character is not developed enough to show many traits. | The poem’s character is not developed. |
| Conflict | The poem clearly shows the conflict and it is resolved at the end. | There is a conflict but it is not resolved or not developed enough to be apparent. | The conflict is not apparent to the reader. |
| Setting | The setting is clearly described. | Little information is given on the setting. | There is no setting. |
| Creativity | The poem ‘sounds’ good. It is creative. | The poem lacks creativity. | The poem has all the elements but is boring (doesn’t sound interesting or keep the reader’s attention). |

**Passed in: (2 marks deducted for each thing not passed in)**

* Outline
* Peer Evaluation Sheet
* Draft
* Polished Copy

**Annotations on polished copy** (Make notes your poem.) (Value: 10)

Total: /31