

# READING LAB PROJECT: BOOKSELLERS' DAY

## THIS IS A REQUIRED PROJECT FOR ONE QUARTER OF READING LAB

Once you've finished reading your selected book for this project, you will be required to prepare a formal presentation in which you attempt to "sell" your book to your peers. You will use/create visual aids to accompany your "pitch." Your visual aids might include:

- ♥ Advertising posters
- ♥ Advertising fliers to distribute to the class
- ♥ Bumper stickers
- ♥ Lapel buttons
- ♥ Bookmarks
- ♥ Transparencies for the overhead projector
- ♥ Object(s) that represent the book in some way
- ♥ Costume that you wear or display that represents the character

The following is the suggested format for your talk: (hint: consider your audience; it's **your** job to keep them interested!)

1. Set up your props and materials.
2. Introduce the book. Show it to your audience. Be sure to give the title and author. Write the title and author on the board or refer to it in your visual aids.
3. Provide some background about the author. This should be only a brief portion of your presentation, but it should be researched. Be sure to tell your audience what source you have used for this information.
4. Briefly summarize the book. Spend no more than a minute or two on this portion of your talk. (Decide whether you should reveal the ending.)
5. Read a brief excerpt from the book. The passage you select should be a significant passage that describes a main character in some way, represents an important point in the plot, or reflects the author's style. Keep it to a page or less.
6. Review the book. **This is a very important part of your talk.** You might comment on the book's theme, problem, conflict, character development, or believability. Your opinion counts. What did you like? What might other readers like? Relate your talk to the visual material included in your presentation. Make a recommendation to other students. "Sell" this book to those you believe would enjoy it.

**DISCRETIONARY POINTS:** Raise your score by considering the following ideas:

- ♥ If the book has been made into a movie and you have seen it, you might also want to compare and contrast the book and film. Bring in the video or DVD and show a short clip (no more than two minutes). This could count as a visual aid. Explain the reason for your choice. Is it a key scene? Was this the part of the plot that was saved to maintain the integrity of the story? Was this an area where the writers altered the story, improving or ruining the desired effect? Was this a scene where the actor(s) blew it because they didn't meet your expectations? Perhaps the actors brought more to the scene than you got from the book, and because of that they took the content to a new level.
- ♥ For part/all of your presentation assume the identity of one of the characters from the book. Discuss some aspect of the book from his/her perspective. If you choose a "shady" character, be sure your choice is school appropriate. See me if you have doubts.

THE FOLLOWING IDEAS WILL ALSO QUALIFY FOR DISCRETIONARY POINTS EXPLAINED BELOW. YOU MAY NOT DOUBLE UP AND USE THESE FOR VISUAL AIDS AND DISCRETIONARY POINTS.

- ♥ Your own videotaped advertisement
- ♥ A book jacket of your own design (**all** writing and artwork must be original)
- ♥ A magazine spread
- ♥ Other ideas?? Talk to me about them.

The goal is to present these on block. You will have at least a week to prepare this but no more than two weeks. **No late work accepted.** In the rare instance that very compelling circumstances may arise **and** you discuss those with me at least three days in advance, I may extend your due date up to three days.

RUBRIC FOR BOOKSELLER'S DAY NAME\_\_\_\_\_

VISUAL AIDS: Five are required. Please list below: (2 points each)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
- 10)\_\_\_\_\_

EFFECTIVE INTRODUCTION AND CONCLUSION  
(This score will also reflect your poise and confidence during presentation) 10) \_\_\_\_\_

INFORMATION ABOUT THE AUTHOR 5) \_\_\_\_\_  
List source(s): \_\_\_\_\_

BRIEF PLOT SUMMARY 5) \_\_\_\_\_

READ EXCERPT FROM THE BOOK 5) \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEW AND "SELLING" OF THE BOOK  
(Why should/shouldn't we read it?) 10) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

DISCRETIONARY POINTS: Points are based on additional options that you choose from the list or, with my approval, develop on your own and incorporate into your presentation (1-5). 0-5) \_\_\_\_\_  
(The amount of points awarded will be at the teacher's discretion and will depend on the depth of development that went into your particular choice.)

TOTAL (50 possible) \_\_\_\_\_

JOURNAL: In a well-developed paragraph (100 words or more) please explain your process and justify the choices you made to develop your presentation. (10 points)

FINAL SCORE (60)\_\_\_\_\_