

Massey Hill Classical High School
English Department: 2019 Summer Reading Assignment

Read one of the following books:

Author	Title
Douglas Adams	<i>The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy</i>
Tomi Adeyemi	<i>Children of Blood and Bone</i>
Robin Benway	<i>Far from the Tree</i>
Holly Black	<i>The Cruel Prince</i>
Justina Ireland	<i>Dread Nation</i>
Jarrett Krosoczka	<i>Hey, Kiddo</i>
Mackenzi Lee	<i>The Gentleman's Guide to Vice and Virtue</i>
Marie Lu	<i>Warcross</i>
Tahereh Mafi	<i>A Very Large Expanse of Sea</i>
Trevor Noah	<i>Born a Crime</i>
Erika L. Sánchez	<i>I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter</i>
Steve Sheinkin	<i>Most Dangerous</i>
Neal Shusterman	<i>Scythe</i>
Nic Stone	<i>Odd One Out</i>
Angie Thomas	<i>On the Come Up</i>

Book Talk Assignment

Your assignment is to give a 1-3 minute “book talk” to the class about the novel you read. The object of a book talk is to convince the class to read the book you are recommending. A book talk is similar to a movie trailer, which shows you just enough information to convince you that you should watch the film. You will need a copy of the book as a visual aid to present during your talk. You may use one index card for notes to make your presentation, but do not read directly from the card. **Presentation date will be selected during the first two weeks of class.**

Format:

Introduction:

Find an interesting, exciting, or mysterious quote to start off your book talk and get the audience’s attention. Don’t just pick any quote. Choose carefully and deliberately to try to capture the attention of the audience. Explain why you chose the quote. Clearly introduce your book by presenting it as a visual and stating the title and author of the book.

Body:

Tell a little about the setting, important characters, and plot in general without giving too much away of the story. Do not just list the characters and the setting and do not give a drawn-out summary of the book. Under no circumstances should you give away the ending of the book. State at least one theme of the book with evidence.

Conclusion:

Convince your audience that you loved this book and that this is the book they want to read next. Infer which readers would enjoy the book. For example, “If you like mysteries and books with suspense, this is a book for you.”

Rubric:

Criteria	Below Average 0	Average 5	Excellent 10
Introduction	Introduction/quote does not grab the audience’s attention	Somewhat interesting introduction/quote	Creative introduction with a well-selected quote that gets the audience’s attention
Eye Contact	Rarely or never maintains eye contact	Sometimes maintains eye contact	Always or almost always maintains eye contact
Plot, Setting, & Characters	Does not discuss all three: setting, characters & plot	Average discussion of setting, characters & plot	Thorough and interesting discussion of setting, characters & plot
Theme	Does not discuss or is incorrect about the theme	Somewhat discusses theme, but does not provide evidence	Thoroughly discusses the theme with evidence
Conclusion	Very little connection or no conclusion at all	Concluded but did not draw the audience to read the book	Very enticing conclusion which draws the audience to read the book
Enthusiasm & Understanding	Did not show enthusiasm or understanding	Some enthusiasm and understanding	Obvious enthusiasm and understanding
Speech	Speech is too fast, too slow, or difficult to hear.	Speech is sometimes difficult to understand or hear.	Speech is easy to understand with good tempo.
Visual Aid	Does not have the book.	Has the book, but does not present it.	Has the book and presents it to the class.
Q & A	Student is unable to answer basic questions.	Student is able to answer most questions.	Student is able to answer all questions.
Time: 1-3 Min.	31+ seconds over/under	1-30 seconds over/under	Between 1-3 minutes.

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