

LHS English Freshman Summer Reading Book Project 2014-2015

Assignment

During your summer break, choose a novel from the approved booklist, read it, and create a poster that displays elements of the book for the entire school to see. Follow the steps below to complete this project for in-class credit! **If you complete the project according to the requirements, you will start your first semester in English with an A!** Participation in the summer reading program is **OPTIONAL**, but *highly* recommended.

Steps to Completion

1. Choose a book from the Approved Booklist. Pay close attention to the elements below while reading, and complete supplementary research after reading.

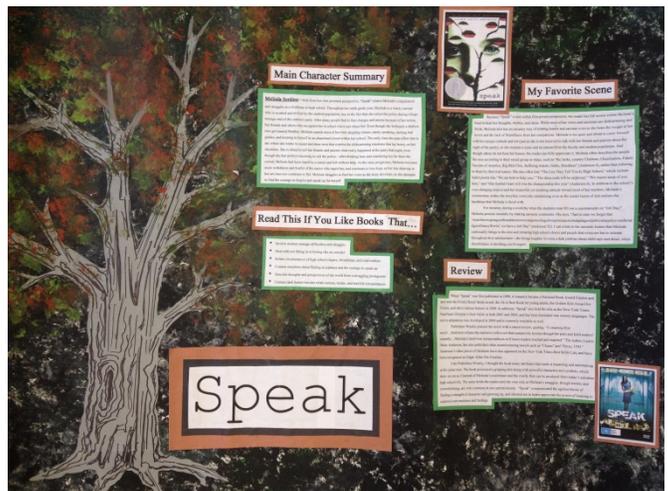
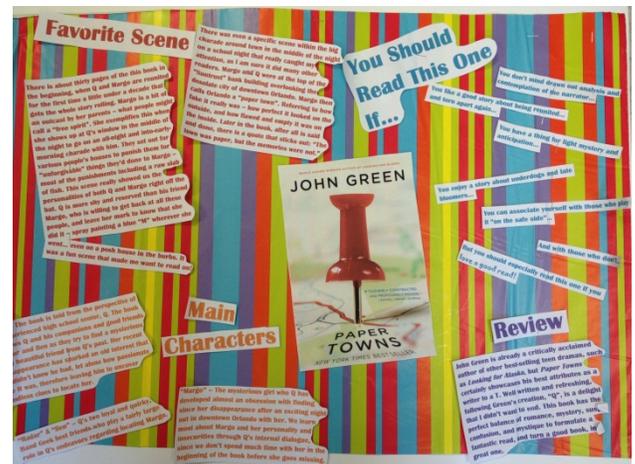
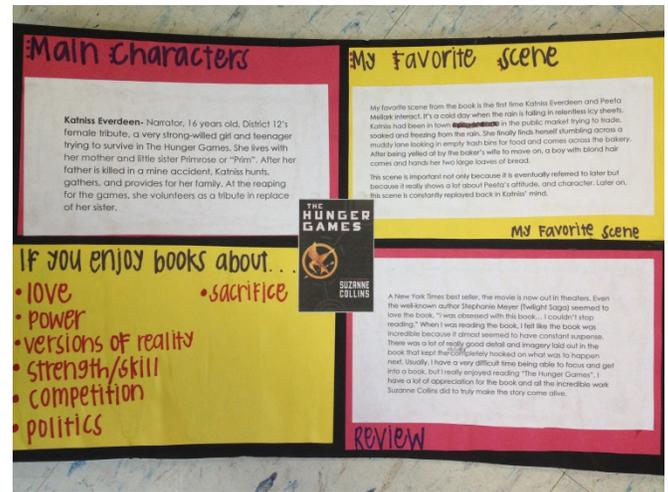
- Main Characters (Protagonist/Antagonist)
- Conflict and complications
- Author Information
- Helpful and Credible Reviews of the Book

2. Construct a standard-sized poster board that includes all of the following sections:

- Summary of each main character
- Description of your favorite scene from the book with properly cited quotes
- "Read This If You Like..." section describing the genre and key features that will help a viewer know if they want to read the book
- A critical review of the book. In your review, evaluate the characterization of characters, use of literary devices and techniques, and development of the plot. (3 paragraphs)
- At least 3 visuals or images incorporated in the construction of the poster

Requirements Checklist

A summary of each main character	
Description of favorite scene with properly cited quotes (MLA format)	
"Read this if you like..."	
Critical review	
Visuals and images – be creative!	
Your name written on the back	



Freshman Book List*

Julia Alvarez, *How the García Girls Lost their Accents*

Fifteen tales vividly chronicle a Dominican family's exile in the Bronx, focusing on the four Garcia daughters' rebellion against their immigrant elders.

Maya Angelou, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*

In this first of five volumes of autobiography, poet Maya Angelou recounts a youth filled with disappointment, frustration, tragedy, and finally hard-won independence.

Avi, *Nothing but the Truth*

A ninth-grader's suspension for singing "The Star-Spangled Banner" during homeroom becomes a national news story

Sampson Davis, George Jenkins, and Rameck Hunt, *The Pact: Three Young Men Make a Promise and Fulfill a Dream*

The three doctors grew up in the streets of Newark, facing city life's temptations, pitfalls, even jail. But one day these three young men made a pact. They promised each other they would all become doctors, and stick it out together through the long, difficult journey to attaining that dream.

Matt De La Pena, *Mexican Whiteboy*

Sixteen-year-old Danny searches for his identity amidst the confusion of being half-Mexican and half-white while spending a summer with his cousin and new friends on the baseball fields and back alleys of San Diego County, California

Charles Dickens, *Great Expectations*

A young man's burning desire to fulfill his "great expectations" of fame and fortune is presented in Charles Dickens's classic tale of love, madness, forgiveness, and redemption.

Kazuo Ishiguro, *Never Let Me Go*

Only special students are chosen to attend Hailsham, an exclusive boarding school tucked away in the English countryside. The chilling truth of their special nature slowly unfolds as we follow the stories of three former students.

Sue Monk Kidd, *Secret Life of Bees*

Searching for the truth about her mother's life and death, a grieving Lily finds the answers, love, and acceptance where she least expects it.

Walter Dean Myers, *The Glory Field*

Follows a family's two hundred forty-one year history, from the capture of an African boy in the 1750s through the lives of his descendants, as their dreams and circumstances lead them away from and back to the small plot of land in South Carolina that they call the Glory Field.

Mary Pearson, *The Adoration of Jenna Fox*

In the not-too-distant future, when biotechnological advances have made synthetic bodies and brains possible but illegal, a seventeen-year-old girl, recovering from a serious accident and suffering from memory lapses, learns a startling secret about her existence.

Richard Peck, *The Teacher's Funeral*

In rural Indiana in 1904, fifteen-year-old Russell's dream of quitting school and joining a wheat threshing crew is disrupted when his older sister takes over teaching at his one room schoolhouse after mean, old Myrt Arbuckle "hauls off and dies."

Ginny Rorby, *Hurt Go Happy*

Thirteen-year-old Joey Willis, deaf since the age of six, is used to being left out of conversations because her mother never allowed her to learn sign language. Everything changes when Joey meets Dr. Charles Mansell and his baby chimpanzee, Sukari, but as Joey's world blooms with possibilities.

John Steinbeck, *The Pearl*

In this short book illuminated by a deep understanding and love of humanity, John Steinbeck retells an old Mexican folk tale: the story of the great pearl, how it was found, and how it was lost.

J.R.R. Tolkien, *Lord of the Rings Trilogy*

This trilogy includes *The Fellowship of the Ring*, *The Two Towers* and *The Return of the King*. It is the story of how the dark power of Sauron is destroyed.

Marcus Zusak, *The Book Thief*

Living in Nazi Germany, young Liesel and her family choose to lie and steal to protect a Jewish refugee hiding in their basement. Narrated by Death, this is not your typical World War II story.

***Books were chosen because of their inclusion on a College Preparation list, the Quality Core curriculum, or because they were teacher recommended. They reflect a variety of genres, time periods, and themes. If you are concerned with the content of any of these books, preview the book before your child reads it and choose another on the list.**