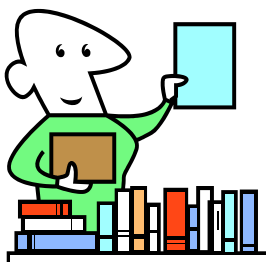


Discovery Projects



Discovery Projects! You have the opportunity☺ to do some outside reading and discovery beyond the walls of the classroom. This means you get to select books that interest you and read most of it on your own time. These offerings either relates to our work in class, are canonical, or just really good reads. So now to the technicalities...

After you finish the reading, you may choose from the options below to reflect your knowledge, understanding, and interpretation of the material. While all contain a written component, only number 1 is a standard short paper; the rest are “nonpapers” or more unusual options. You cannot do an approach more than one time throughout the year in an effort to get you to try new things.

- 1) Write a 1-2 page, typed literary analysis paper on one specific element of the work (tone, symbol, theme, characterization, etc.). Use at least three quotes, regular writing standards apply.
- 2) Write a 1-2 page, typed personal narrative paper that relates the work specifically to your life. Regular writing standards apply.
- 3) Write a radio show version of an important section of the piece, and record it on cassette tape. As you write the script for 3-4 episodes, make sure to include any necessary sound effects and music. You may work with one other person, be creative and consider including a commercial or two!
- 4) Create a piece, or series of pieces, of art (sculpture or on canvas) which reflects the themes of the work. This is for those who find painting or drawing a meaningful form of expression—a stick figure character portrait is not sufficient☺. When finished, you may present and explain it to the class, and write (a.k.a. type) a brief explanation for me.
- 5) Create a comic strip or storyboard of any important scene in the piece. Be sure that the illustrations explain the story and its themes clearly. Remember, you need not include every detail, only the most important elements.
- 6) *Time Magazine* has decided to print an informative series on important works of literature. As a new young journalist, this is your big break—you have been assigned to cover the piece you just read! In your well-developed article, you should mention any historical significance of the novel/play, any important background information, and discuss how the themes of the work find meaning in contemporary society (consider national and international events).
- 7) Condense one section or the entire work into a long poem. Be sure to include important events and remember good poetry doesn't always rhyme! Then, you will present a dramatic reading to the class.

- 8) Condense one section or the entire work into a song. You may use the music of a familiar song, or compose a score of your own. Make it an appropriate length and sing it for the class when finished!
- 9) Who needs Matt Damon or Gwyneth Paltrow? You and two friends are the most gifted actors Vicksburg has ever produced. Act out 2-4 scenes with memorized lines and tons of *passion*.

You may perform for the class or videotape “on location.” Be sure to include any necessary scenery or costumes. Also, some scenes require more than 3 actors; improvise among yourselves, or bribe a friend into acting a bit part without receiving a grade. You will need to turn in a script.
- 10) Same as above, only for one person. You may compose a one-man play or monologue which reflects an understanding of character and theme. You will perform this for the class and hand in a script.
- 11) Like watching movies? Write a 2 page, typed paper which compares the piece you read to a film version or evaluates the film’s interpretation. You may analyze technical aspects such as camera angles, composition, or acting; or you may analyze how accurately the film portrayed the piece (why were some pieces left out/left in/changed?).
- 12) Love live theater? Go see either a performance of a piece you read and compare (see #12), or see a work that is not on the provided list and in a 1 page paper explain how it relates to our unit.
- 13) Write a zero or final chapter for the novel (or scene for a play). Make sure to relate to present themes, utilize any necessary symbols, and mimic the author’s style as closely as possible. No more than 3 pages.
- 14) Write at least 2 pages worth of reflective diary entries for any main character. Make sure to include major events, as well as themes in the entries. Also try to use a voice authentic to the character!
- 15) Any other ideas? If you have another idea, just make sure I okay it before you get started.

All these projects are worth 50 points and require the work, responsibility, and talent of an AP student. No Slacking Allowed!

©Extra credit opportunity: If you complete TWO discovery projects on TWO separate books, due the same date as the assigned project. The second project can be used for extra credit points up to 25. You can only do one per semester, you can use the points where you want them, and you must keep track of your points – if you lose them, you lose your points. Also, I must sign off when you use your points. (I have a form for that.)

Discovery Project Due Dates:

1st quarter: Friday, Oct. 15.

2nd quarter: Friday, Dec. 3

3rd quarter: Friday, Feb. 11

4th quarter: Friday, April 22