Novel Project Guidelines and Rubric

**Why are reading novels in United States History?** The novels we are reading are going to open up new ideas and perspectives on events in U.S. History.

**How much do novel projects count?** The novel project will count for TWO test grades.

**What is due date for our first novel project?** September 12

**Novel Project Guidelines:**

1. Keep a reading log
2. Pick THREE characters/places/items that represent the novel

-Write a one paragraph (FIVE sentences) for each of the THREE characters/places/items and explain how they played a key role in the novel.

1. Create a visual representation of your book – Be creative! (no posters) The following are just suggestions.

-Ideas: finger puppets, cakes, dress a doll, paper mache, wire sculpture, soap carving, collage, mobile, diorama, t shirt, puzzle, board game, mini quilt

1. Research the time period your novel is set in. Write a 75- 100 word summary of the time period. You must use two sources. You must cite your sources.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Categories for Grading | Meets or exceeds requirements | Meets most requirements | Many requirements are not met |
| Reading Log | 10 | 5-9 | 0-5 |
| Character/Places/Items Paragraphs | The paragraph completely explain the reason you believe this character/place/item represent the book best | I am starting to see why you chose certain character/place/item to represent the book | I am unsure of why the character/place/item were chosen |
| Character/place/item 1:  10 points | Character/place/item 1:  7-9 points | Character/place/item 1:  0-6 points |
| Character/place/ item 2:  10 points | Character/place/ item 2:  7-9 points | Character/place/ item 2:  0-6 points |
| Character/place/ item 3:  10 points | Character/place/ item 3:  7-9 points | Character/place/ item 3:  0-6 points |
| Novel Visual representation | 40  (I feel like I am a part of the book and understand the story line) | 30-39  (I get the idea of the main points of the book) | 0-29  (The main idea of the book is fuzzy) |
| Time Period Summary | 20  (The main points of the time period are covered) | 10-19  (Many main points of the time period are left out) | 0-9  (The time period is fuzzy) |
| Total points: |  |  |  |

Hello Students and Parents!

I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer and is ready for a great school year. I am very excited about all the avenues we will use for learning in our classroom. I believe books are great sources of knowledge and are great assets in the history classroom. Each student will be required to read two books during the school, one in August/September and one in January. Students will be able to pick both of their books off of the list I have created. Students can only pick one book per time period in order to increase the knowledge learned. In addition, each book is only open to one student in each class period at a time. One student can read the book in August and another student can read the book in January. Sign-ups for August/September books will take place during Open House. Students should come prepared with multiple choices in mind. Students will be required to have the book they have chosen by August 22. Students will be reporting on the books on September 12. Instructions for book projects and reading logs will be given out during the first week of school. Please email or call if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Aubrey B. Southall

**BOOK LIST**

Chains- Laurie Halse Anderson (early American history)

Forge- Laura Halse Anderson (early American history)

Fever, 1793- Laurie Halse Anderson (early American history)

You Want Women to Vote, Lizzie Stanton? (mid- to late 1800s time period)

Steal Away- Jennifer Armstrong (Civil War time period)

With Every Drop of Blood- James Collier, Christopher Collier

(Civil War time period)

The War Within- Carol Matas (Civil War time period)

Nightjohn- Gary Paulsen (Civil War time period)

Jeannette Rankin: Political Pioneer- Gretchen Woelfle (early 1900s time period)

Uprising. Margaret Peterson Haddix. (early 1900s time period)

Esperanza Rising - Pam Ryan (Great Depression time period)

Bud, Not Buddy- Christopher Paul Curtis (Great Depression time period)

The Education of Little Tree- Forest Carter (Great Depression time period)

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry – Mildred D. Taylor ( Great Depression time period)

Year of Impossible Good-Byes- Sook Nyul Choi (World War II time period)

In the Year of the Boar & Jackie Robinson- Bette Bao Lord (World War II time period)

Journey to Topaz- Yoshiko Uchida (World War II time period)

**Torn Thread** – Anna Issacs (World War II time period)

Yellow Star. Jennifer Roy. (World War II time period)

**For Freedom: The Story of a French Spy- Kimberly Brubaker Bradley (World War II time period)**

**Flygirl- Sherri L. Smith (World War II time period)**

**When My Name was Keoko- Linda Sue Park (World War II time period)**

Rosa Parks, My Story- Rosa Parks and Jim Haskins (Civil Rights Movement time period)

The Watsons Go to Birmingham- 1963- Christopher Paul Curtis (Civil Rights Movement time period)

The Red Rose Box- Brenda Wood (Civil Rights Movement time period)

Mr.Touchdown- Lyda Phillips (Civil Rights Movement time period)

The $66 Summer- John Armistead (Civil Rights Movement time period)

# Zlata's Diary: A Child's Life in Wartime Sarajevo- Zlata Filipovic (1990s time period)

Outcasts United- Warren St. John (1990s time period)

The Heart of a Chief- Joseph Bruchac (contemporary