Independent Reading Project

During this semester you will read one book of your choice as part of the Independent Reading Project. 
**Grading for the Independent Reading Project:** = 100 points

**Choosing a book:**

- You may read any work of fiction or non-fiction (no magazines).
- You should make a plan for reading your book at a reasonable pace.
- Books must be 175 pages or more in length. See me if you have questions.
- You must complete 1 – Numbered Activity, 1- Lettered Activity, and 1 Book Review for a total of 3 activities.

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**Independent Reading Project
Book Review Rubric**

**Book Review Requirements:** Review your novel. Include the following: a) title and author, b) genre of the story, c) names of major characters, d) brief description of conflict(s), e) what you liked/disliked about the book, f) a recommendation for a specific audience.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Satisfactory</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Unacceptable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Author, Title, Genre, Characters</strong></td>
<td>All required elements</td>
<td>3 required elements</td>
<td>2 required elements</td>
<td>0-1 required elements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description of Conflicts</strong></td>
<td>Includes <strong>all</strong> major plot details</td>
<td>Includes <strong>most</strong> major plot details</td>
<td>Includes <strong>some</strong> major plot details</td>
<td>Includes <strong>no</strong> major plot details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Likes/Dislikes</strong></td>
<td>Provides <strong>detailed</strong> examples in <strong>both</strong> areas</td>
<td>Provides examples in <strong>both</strong> areas; <strong>lacks</strong> detail</td>
<td>Provides examples in only <strong>one</strong> area</td>
<td>Provides <strong>no</strong> examples in either area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Audience Recommendation</strong></td>
<td>Specific audience w/ details</td>
<td>Specific audience w/ few details</td>
<td>General audience w/ details</td>
<td>No audience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grammar &amp; Mechanics</strong></td>
<td>0-2 errors</td>
<td>3-5 errors</td>
<td>6-10 errors</td>
<td>11+ errors</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Independent Reading Projects
FINAL PROJECTS

NUMBERED ACTIVITIES: 100 points

1. Write a letter to the author of the book. Tell him/her what you liked and disliked about the story and his/her writing style. Give them specific reasons and examples from the story to support what you say. Be sure that your letter is in the correct format.

2. Write a resume of one of your better-detailed characters. Imagine that the character is applying for a job (appropriate to his/her role in the story). Include objective, prior experience, education/schooling/degrees, vital statistics, hobbies, and references. Make the document look official. Type it!

3. Imagine you were to go through the trash of one of the characters. Explain what you might find and why. Base your “finds” on the story and character actions. Please describe at least ten items.

4. Write an ad for a dating service for one of the characters. Include details such as a physical description, hobbies, interests, education, job, likes/dislikes, favorites, and what he/she is looking for in a potential date. You should use information you learned about this character from the story, but you can also use your imagination to fill out the ad.

5. Find the top 10 web sites a character in your book would most frequently visit. List the title and web address for each choice. Include 2-3 sentences for each on why your character might like each of the sites. (Be sure the web addresses are accurately recorded, as they will be verified.)

LETTERED ACTIVITIES: 100 points

A. Create a comic strip or a storyboard for the events in the story. Be sure that the illustrations explain the story clearly. Do not include every detail—only those that are necessary to understand the actions. You will not be judged on your artistic talent, only on your apparent effort. However, please use good judgment

B. Design a web site or construct a power point presentation about the book. Include a short story map of important elements like characters, settings, themes, or other information that you feel would be useful.

C. Make a scrapbook about the story or pretend a character had made it about his/her life. This should look like a real scrapbook, complete with actual memorabilia, awards, letters, photos, mementos, ticket stubs, report cards, etc. Include the book title or the character’s name on the book. Label each item (at least ten) and explain its significance.

D. Create a book jacket description for the story. Pretend you are trying to “hook” readers’ interest in the story by explaining its contents on the back of the book. How would you tell people what the book is about and persuade them to pick it up and read it?

E. Design a CD cover (front, back, and insides) that is 8” x 8”. The back cover should list the soundtrack for the novel (title and artist) that includes at least 10 well-known songs. On the inside, write at least 2-3 sentences (per song) explaining how it relates to the story events or character(s). The look of the front cover is up to you!