

Literature Circles

For our study of short stories/the novel/the play/graphic novels, we will be using literature circles as a tool for learning. Literature circles are designed to provide small group discussion time about the text as you are reading it. It is an opportunity for you to discuss issues, ideas, and questions that you may have about the text you have read. As well, the notes and ideas exchanged serve as a complete set of study notes for the short story/novel/play/graphic novel unit (along with some input from me), and will prepare you for your study of core texts, quizzes, unit test, multimedia presentations, and exam.

You **must** be accountable for the time that you spend with your group at your Literature Circle Meeting and the material that you are required to cover. For each meeting, you are expected to:

- Read the assigned short stories
- Complete the assigned role for each meeting
- Participate fully by reading your task role (it does not matter what order)
- Contribute to all discussions by responding to each person who reads their role

You will meet four times total, once each to discuss the text(s). You will be expected to complete each of the following roles throughout our study of short stories/the novel/the play/graphic novels. Meeting dates will be supplemented by input lessons and/or activities, if necessary, providing contextual information to aid your study.

Task role requirements for each Literature Circle Meeting:

- Typed
- Length of one to two pages
- Organizational layout (use of bolded headings, etc.)

You will be assessed according to:

- The appropriate completion of your task role, as prescribed in the instructions
- The quality of your contributions to the literature circle meeting
- The quality of your ideas

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Role	Description	Sample Questions to Consider When Completing	What to Complete
Literary Luminary	You are also expected to highlight examples of literary devices and record both their uses and effectiveness. Finally, you will be asked to look up any allusions or references in the graphic novel you read and explain your understanding of them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What makes the writing in this section so effective? (literary devices) • How is the symbolism necessary to the story as a whole? • What references are made to situations outside of the original story? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least four (4) examples of different literary devices, including their use (i.e., the sentence it appears in) • At least one (1) allusions or references, with explanations
Big Connector	<p>Connecting to prior knowledge and experience to reading deepens comprehension and understanding. You will be looking for and recording connections that you can make to the graphic novel you have chosen.</p> <p>Basically, there are four types of connections that you can make:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Text to text - find a connection between the text that you are reading and something that you have read or watched elsewhere Text to the world - find connections between the text that you are reading and bigger issues or events in the world Text to self - find a connection between the text that you are reading and your personal experience Text within text - find a connection between the section of the text that you are reading and another section of the same text. <p>You are also expected to discuss theme(s) as you make connections.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What connections can you make to current events in your community? • What other people or places could you compare this story to? • What other books or stories might you compare this one to? • What other characters or authors might you compare this to? • How does the theme(s) represented connect to other stories? Previous sections? Media texts? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All four (4) connections must be made, written in separate sentences, with headings for each type of connection • A theme statement reflecting the dominant theme of the section read (not for each connection)
Peacemaker	You are being asked to identify and examine the different types of conflict at play in the graphic novel. Remember to consider all seven of the varieties of conflict (person vs. person, person vs. society, person vs. self, person vs. nature, etc.). Examine the reason behind each conflict, and provide a resolution to each conflict.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What examples of conflict are at play in the graphic novel? • How does one conflict affect another? • What solutions can be offered to the characters? • Are any forms of conflict more prevalent? What does this tell us about the graphic novel as a whole? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least three (3) different types of conflict • Reason behind each conflict found • Resolution to each conflict found
Charley	You are expected to track the characters and their development throughout the story. You will keep a list of the character traits demonstrated within the story, with examples and any new characters that are introduced. It is important that you include physical, mental, moral, and emotional characteristics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do we know about the characters? • What new characters have we met in this section? • How do we learn about the characters? • Are any character traits from earlier sections developed further in this section? If so, how? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least three (3) character traits for each character • Identify what type of character, based on importance, complexity, and development • State how/why character develops.

Roles for 4 People

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Text to Study: _____

Group Members:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Role	Student 1 Name	Student 2 Name	Student 3 Name	Student 4 Name
Meeting 1 Literary Luminary	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4
Meeting 2 Big Connector	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4
Meeting 3 Peacemaker	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4
Meeting 4 Charley	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4

Group Schedule