**Novel Study Book Selection**

**Name:**

**Block:**

1. **Sold** by Patricia McCormick – This novel tells the story of a girl from Nepal named Lakshmi, who is sold into sexual slavery in [India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India).
2. **The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian** by Sherman Alexie – This novel is a coming-of-age story, told from the perspective of a Native American teenager. Junior is a 14-year-old budding cartoonist, and is encouraged to go to an all-white public high school off the reservation. This is a controversial novel due to its discussion of alcohol, poverty, bullying, violence, and sexuality. Many schools have banned this book.
3. **The Cellist of Sarajevo** by Steven Galloway - The novel is set during the siege of Sarajevo in the mid-1990s and explores the dilemmas of ordinary people caught in the crisis. The novel follows the lives of three fictional citizens of Sarajevo as they struggle to survive the war, including one who seeks to protect a cellist. The novel examines the gentleness found in humanity and the lasting and healing power of art.
4. **The Pearl** by John Steinbeck – Inspired by a Mexican folk tale, this novel is about a pearl diver who finds a valuable pearl, and the destruction and death he brings to his family when his greed takes over
5. **If I Grow Up** by Todd Strasser – This novel is about a young boy who lives in the projects in New York, where daily life is ruled by drugs and gang violence. The main character must choose between a life of crime or to stay in school, but faces trouble when it comes to choosing between helping to feed his family or not.
6. **Acceleration** by Graham McNamee – This novel is about Duncan, a 17-year-old who works in a Transit Lost and Found. One day, he discovers a leather journal of a man with a twisted mind. The journal depicts past crimes the madman has committed, and his plans to kill women. Duncan decides to track down the serial killer and try to prevent the murders from happening.

Please rank your top 3 choices of novels, with a brief (but strong) reason why you want to read this novel. Please put a star beside any novel you have already read (on your own or in school).

First choice:

Second choice:

Third choice: