Grade 9 Literature Circles Ms. Tate

In addition to the lit circle reading and discussion, you will work independently on a project chosen from the list below. Before choosing how you will present what you have learned, try to identify the themes that are dealt with in the novel, as some formats may work better with particular issues.

*Possible themes/iissues:*

Vandalism, The Golden Rule, Expectations (of self or others), Relationships, Loneliness, Prejudice, Harassment, Self-esteem, Death, Aging, Growing up, Effects of evil, Personal Happiness, Loyalty, Knowledge used for power, Heritage, Duty, Honour, Leadership, Survival, Inner Conflict (or dilemma), Inhumanity to others, Responsibility, Empathy, Self-control, Manners, Love, Commitment, etc.

*Possible projects: (Please see me if you have another idea you’d like to propose.)*

1. Write an essay. Some of you are natural essay writers and others may want to strengthen their essay writing skills. See me if you need help getting started.
2. Make several connections through other forms of text (music, poetry, other prose, novels). Build a collection of other forms of writing that connect with the novel and explain how they connect. Find poems, a short story, and articles from the newspaper or magazines. This can be presented in an artistic layout, or digitally through a variety of mediums.
3. Write a newspaper article reporting a major event in the novel as well as an editorial in which you express your views on the issue involved. News broadcast, filmed as a real. Editorial, main headline to report on, weather,
4. Write the next chapter, the one after the book has ended. Try to imitate the author’s style of writing and make it original (i.e. no ideas take from something you have read or watched on TV). Like the video essay, write it and film it
5. Write a lengthy e-mail to the author, explaining how the novel has affected your thinking. Print out the e-mail showing the author’s contact info, even it is directed to his or her attention through the publisher. This will be mailed! Skype the author, have a discussion in class, hand in hard copy of questions and letter?
6. Write a long letter – or a series of letters – from one character to another or from you to one of the characters, indicating the relationship between the two – or how you identified with the character. Show your understanding of the personal situations and the process by which the relationship was formed. Movie idea, 2 conversations between characters, edit, trailer concept
7. Write the script of a play where the antagonist of your novel is put on trial or, alternatively, interviewed by a counselor or journalist. Organize classmates or members of your reading group to present the ‘play’ in a live or pre-recorded reading of your script. Stop motion, or act out…
8. Using one of the themes as your focus, film a short film/stop motion that highlights the protagonists journey.

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Block: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Lit Circle Individual Project: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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| **Criteria** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **Comments** |
| **Criteria #1**  Project demonstrates a deep understanding of novel’s theme |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Criteria #2:**  Project reflects student’s strengths/learning style |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Criteria #3:**  Attention to detail, creativity, care and effort in project |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Criteria #4:**  English fundamentals are met (spelling, capitals, proper nouns, etc) |  |  |  |  |  |

**1** = Beginner, **2** = Developing, **3** = Accomplished, **4** = Exemplary