# Author Background (and historical background if relevant) Infographic or Mind Map

It can be argued that no story is independent of its author. Their life experiences, background, ethnicity, childhood, political leanings, all influence their writing. Even the most fictional, imaginative story can be a reflection of the writer. In an infographic ([canva](https://www.canva.com/q/pro/?v=2&gclid=e15b7f9dec931a1254f0202713f89761&gclsrc=3p.ds&msclkid=e15b7f9dec931a1254f0202713f89761&utm_source=bing&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=REV_CA_EN_CanvaPro_Branded_Tier1_Core_EM&utm_term=canva&utm_content=REV_CA_EN_CanvaPro_Branded_Tier1_Canva_EM) or [picktochart](https://piktochart.com/)) or a mind map ([coggle](https://coggle.it/)), research the author’s background, creative process, and major themes. I recommend watching interviews with the author (YouTube?) as well as reading reputable websites. Many authors have their own websites now. **A MLA works cited is mandatory!!!**

**Due Thursday, December 9th on TEAMS.**

**When handing in**

* **Piktochart**
	+ Save as a PNG/Medium quality
	+ Attach PNG to TEAMS
* **Canva**
	+ Download pdf
	+ Attach pdf to TEAMS
* **Coggle**
	+ Make it “public”
	+ Copy and Share the link in TEAMS
1. **Author’s Background**

**Avoid Wikipedia except to back up facts. Please look to the author’s website and personal interviews.**

* 1. 3-5 facts that would be relevant to the writing of the story such as ethnic background, childhood, life experiences, etc. (eg. The amount of awards they received is not relevant to the story.)
	2. With each of the above facts, explain how this could influence the story. (Predictions are welcome. You have not read the story yet, so you are hypothesizing at this point)
		1. Eg. Harper Lee’s father was a lawyer in Alabama in the 1920’s. This may have influenced her to write about a court case about race relations. It also means she may have known what it is like to live with a lawyer.
		2. Harper Lee was a white woman who went to Law school and witnessed the beginnings of the Civil Rights Movement in the early 60’s. Her ethnicity and education may have influenced her ideas about race relations in the USA and how it was changing.
1. **The creative process**
	1. (3-5 facts). How did they come up with this idea? How did they develop the idea and story? How did they evaluate the idea and story as they progressed in the writing? Here are some possibilities to explore:
		1. Collaboration (feedback, help, publishing)
		2. Rejection (was their story rejected before publishing?)
		3. Where did they write and for how long? (in a café for five years, or at their desk in one week? On a beach in Cabo observing the locals or researching the human condition from their office?)
		4. How were they inspired?
		5. Anything else interesting about their creative or writing process?
2. **Other information about your book**. Answer the question that pertains to your novel. **This is your own words! No copy and pasting. Keep it simple… I know you can write a lot about these questions. Summarize the information into one paragraph or a few bullets**
	1. ***American Dirt*:** Describe the Mexican cartel and its power in Mexican society.
	2. ***1000 Splendid Suns***: Who is the Taliban? What is life like under their rule? What was life like in Afghanistan before the Soviet invasion?
	3. ***Where the Crawdads Sing*** *: Include images of the marsh in North Carolina. What are some common wildlife there that we don’t have here?*
	4. ***Educated****: Find Clifton, Idaho on the map. Insert an image into your graphic that reflects the rural, mountainous landscape.*
		1. *Research “The Standoff at Ruby Ridge” and describe the events that happened. Just the facts, please.*
	5. ***On the Back of the Turtle:*** *What is the significance of the turtle to the First Nation’s people?*
	6. ***Three Day Road:*** *Indigenous people fought in WWI. Can you find some facts to explore this? Who was Francis “Peggy” Pegahmagabow and what is his story?*
	7. ***Anxious People:*** *Any other tidbits you think we should know about the author or the setting?*
3. **Controversy-(optional**) is there any criticism surrounding the author and the book?
4. **Images: you should have a minimum of 5 images. This should include an image of the author, the book and three others that may be relevant. Please do not use generic stock images such as this one:**

**Assessment /12**

Criteria

1. Visually appealing (20%)
	1. Layout is organized and easy to read
	2. Text heavy (but not too much! Point form or small chunky paragraphs are encourged) with strong, relevant images
2. Content (50%)
	1. All questions answered with insight and effort
	2. Answers are concise and correct
	3. Author’s background and predictions show critical thinking
3. Writing (20%)
	1. Concise
	2. Own words (no copying and pasting)
	3. Writing conventions are followed (proofread). Capitalize the author and the title of the book!!!
4. Works cited (10%)
	1. Included in presentation
	2. Formatted correctly (First listed author's Last name, First name, et al. “Title of Web Page.” Title of Website, Publisher, Date published in Day Month Year **format**, URL.)
	3. Strong, reliable sources that are NOT Wikipedia.