

Independent Novel Study Research Project

Reading and responding to a novel is most important, obviously, but often we ignore the bigger picture behind and surrounding a novel. For this project, I want you to do some research and find out more about the novel, including:

- Biography of the author (age, home town, other books). How old was this author when this book was written? Can you find any information about WHY it was written (what inspired it, etc.)? Was this author known already at the time? Did this book change the author's life in any way?
- Literary connections - what other, similar books in this genre were big at the time that it came out? What was going on in the world? Did that have any effect on the book's significance? Has this book been compared to other books?
- Reaction to the book - What were reviews like? Find and quote some reviews. What did other authors say about the book? Did it win any awards? Was there any controversy surrounding the book's release? (for example, did you know that Harry Potter was banned in many places for a long time? Why?)
- How many copies were sold? Were there sequels? Was there a movie adaptation? Was it released in other countries?

You will have to consult a VARIETY of sources in order to get your facts straight. You need to WRITE YOUR INFORMATION IN YOUR OWN WORDS! Do not copy and paste AT ALL!

I need to see links to AT LEAST 4 different sources of information that you consulted.

Since we are working with technology, it would be nice if these could be put together in a more creative way than just writing down facts on paper (and, yes, writing them in a Word document is the same thing....) You are encouraged to use whichever program you are most comfortable with to come up with something creative and interesting!

This doesn't have to be terribly formal or terribly long, but you do have to put thought into all of the categories listed above and show that you did enough research to find out accurate information (consulted various sources,) and you have to show that you put together an original and interesting project.