

In your **Book Talk Assignment**, you will deliver a **3-5 minute book talk** to the class about the novel you have read independently. It is essentially a persuasive speech to convince the listener that they should or should not read a specific book. A book talk is very similar to a trailer for a film, which shows you just enough information to convince you that you should watch the movie. **You must have your book with you when you present. Make sure you mark the page of the selection you are reading. Due June 10, 2014. Everyone must be prepared for this date, and names will be drawn to see who presents each day.**

CRITERIA

1. **Prepare notes for your speech.** You should have at least one page of prepared notes.
2. **Begin your book talk with an introduction.** Introduce the book you read with an interesting lead or hook that gets the listener's attention. Be sure to identify the **author** and **title** of the book.
3. **Talk about each of the following elements in your novel. Choose (1) prompt from each section to get you started.**

Plot (The action of the story)

- the story includes a number (2, 3, 4 . . .) of suspenseful and surprising events
- the story includes some / many predictable events
- certain parts of the story are confusing / hard to believe
- the climax (most important event) changes the story in an interesting way, in a believable way, in an unbelievable way
- there are a number (2, 3, 4 . . .) of important events which lead to the ending
- the ending is surprising . . . predictable . . . unbelievable . . .

Characters (The people . . . and sometimes animals . . . in the story)

- the main character changes from _____ to _____ by the end
- certain forces or circumstances make the character(s) act the way they do
- a certain character acts believably/ unbelievably when . . .
- _____ is the main character's outstanding personality trait
- the main character does the right thing when . . .
- I can identify with the main character when . . .

Setting (The time and place of the story)

- the setting helps make the story exciting
- the setting has an important effect on the main character
- the setting increased my knowledge of a certain time period in history by . . .
- the setting creates a new and exciting world
- the setting in this book offers nothing new and exciting
- the setting could have played a more important role in this story

Theme (The author's statement or lesson about life)

- Ambition, courage, greed, happiness or jealousy is the theme
- the moral "Don't judge a book by its cover", "Haste makes waste", "Hard work pays off", is developed in this book
- this book showed me what it is like to be . . .

4. **Share a selection.** Read a short passage from the book that you like. This could be descriptive writing, a suspenseful part, a scary part...or something that you think the author has done well. **Read this section out loud from the book.** Be sure to explain what is happening in the book at the point you are reading.
5. **End with a recommendation.** Explain whether or not you would recommend this book to your classmates. Which audience would enjoy this book the most? Be sure to give a strong supporting reason for your opinion.

*****Remember to practice your book talk out loud before the due date!!!!*****

