The Catcher in the Rye Theme Study

The end of *The Catcher in the Rye* is here! It is now time to work on our final project.

All students will **identify one of the themes explored in the novel and explain how your project focuses on it**. **Make specific references to elements of your creative project to prove their connection.**

THEMES FROM THE NOVEL

1 THEME MUST BE EVIDENT IN YOUR PROJECT

1. Social alienation
2. Corruption of society
3. The difficulty of growing up
4. Phoniness in Life

**This project consists of:**

* **5 minute in-class presentation**
* **Handing in anything you write down, type out, or make in a folder, duo tang, or box with your/your partner’s names on it.**

Your Task: Individually or in a partnership, **choose one of the following activities** to **share with the class**.

1. Act out a scene from one chapter, either live in front of the class, or on video (you will have to record your scene of a disc and I will need to book a projector to show your film, so give me a heads up in good time!). Make it your own! You may choose to modernize the language, or even put in slang, but make sure to communicate key themes and content of the chapter. Develop methods to help you with the lines. The **script must be handed in** with your final product.
2. Compose your own musical interpretation of the events that occur throughout one chapter. Be ready to play it live in class, or have it previously recorded. Be sure to give the piece a title. **Lyrics and/or a copy of the music (unless performed live) must be handed in** with your final product.
3. Write a series of Facebook or Twitter messages that shows a conversation between Holden and another character in the book. Your presentation will require you to do more than simply read the conversation from your sheet. **Conversation must be handed in.**
4. Create a children’s version of one chapter in picture-book format. Include text and coloured illustrations, as well as a cover. In a foreword to parents, explain why you included certain elements of the story and why you left some things out. You story must be complete as far as having a beginning, middle, and end that flows smoothly and would make sense as a stand-alone text.
5. Create a diorama (a three-dimensional representation of a scene in which objects or models are arranged in a natural setting against a realistic background, for example, Holden in a museum). Be sure to give your diorama a title.
6. Create a comic strip that depicts a key scene from one chapter. **Include a cover page**. Illustrations should be colourful and text must be clear and legible.
7. If you have any other ideas of what you would like to do, come see me within 24 hours! We can probably work something out!

You will be given **some** **class time to work on this project. However, you will probably have to spend some time outside of class on your project in order to complete it**.

*The Catcher in the Rye* Multimedia Culminating Task Rubric

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Mark:\_\_\_/40

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Level 4 | Level 3 | Level 2 | Level 1 | Below Level 1 |
| Knowledge and Understanding  /10 | Student demonstrates thorough understanding of the theme and have creatively interpreted it so as to show thorough knowledge of its significance. | Student demonstrates good understanding of the theme and have creatively interpreted it so as to show general knowledge of its significance. | Student demonstrates some understanding of the theme and have interpreted it so as to show basic knowledge of its significance. | Student demonstrates little understanding of the theme and have interpreted it so as to show insufficient knowledge of its significance. | Student has not demonstrated understanding of the theme and have not creatively interpreted it so as to show knowledge of its significance. |
| Thinking  /10 | Student’s interpretive project shows in-depth thinking and analysis.  Student has insightfully connected the text to their creative project through a thematic study | Student’s interpretive project shows quality thinking and analysis.  Student has connected the text to their creative project through a thematic study | Student’s interpretive project shows surface thinking and analysis.  Student has vaguely connected the text to their creative project through a thematic study | Student’s interpretive project shows insufficient thinking and analysis.  Student has not adequately connected the text to their creative project through a thematic study | Student’s interpretive project shows no thinking and analysis.  Student has not attempted to connect the text to their creative project through a thematic study |
| Application  /10 | Student’s interpretive project demonstrates high technical complexity  The project shows significant evidence of originality and inventiveness. The majority of the content and many of the ideas are fresh, original, and inventive.  All elements of the project have been completed and submitted  Student has linked elements in their project to illuminate theme | Student’s interpretive project demonstrates technical complexity  The project shows some evidence of originality and inventiveness.  Most elements of the project have been completed and submitted  Student has linked some key elements in their project to illuminate theme | Student’s interpretive project demonstrates some technical complexity  The work is an extensive collection and rehash of other people's ideas, products, and images. There is little evidence of new thought or inventiveness.  Few elements of the project have been completed/submitted  Student has linked few key elements in their project to illuminate theme | Student’s interpretive project demonstrates low technical complexity  The work is a minimal collection or rehash of other people's ideas, products, and images. There is no evidence of new thought.  Only one element of the project has been completed/submitted  Student has linked insufficient elements in their project to illuminate theme | Student’s interpretive project demonstrates no technical complexity  Creativity is severely lacking  Zero elements of the project have been submitted  Student has not linked the text or their project to illuminate theme |
| Communication  /10 | Student expresses and organizes ideas and information with a high degree of effectiveness  Presentation style is colourful, insightful, dimensional and is highly effective | Student expresses and organizes ideas and information with a medium degree of effectiveness  Presentation style is appropriate and is effective | Student expresses and organizes ideas and information with a low degree of effectiveness  Presentation style is somewhat appropriate and is somewhat effective | Student expresses and organizes ideas and information to an insufficient degree of effectiveness  Presentation style is general inappropriate and is generally not effective | Student has not expressed or organized ideas and information  Presentation style is inappropriate and ineffective. Or has not taken place. |

The Catcher in the Rye Theme Study

Your task:

1. Choose a chapter from the novel that you thought was interesting /funny /revealing /moving /etc. This chapter should be thought-provoking for you as you will be writing and speaking about it.
2. Decide what major theme is evident throughout this chapter.
3. Write a theme study for this chapter.

* 2 page maximum
* Your introduction (one paragraph) is where you will summarize the chapter and state which theme you think is most evident
* Your body paragraphs will be used to prove the theme is, in fact, explored in the chapter. Use a minimum of 3 examples (quotes) from the chapter. Analyze 1 quote per body paragraph.
* Your conclusion will sum up the significance of the theme explored in this chapter to the text as a whole.

1. Choose a song that you think represents the theme from this chapter
2. Write a theme study for this song.

* 2 page maximum
* Your introduction (one paragraph) is where you will summarize the message and tone of the song
* Your body paragraphs will be used to prove the theme from *The Catcher in the Rye* is, in fact, explored in the song. Use a minimum of 3 examples (quotes) from the chapter. Analyze 1 quote per body paragraph.
* Your conclusion will sum up the significance of the theme explored in this chapter to the text as a whole.