

Literature: Mrs. Karen Costanzo

Literature 8

Short Story Project

Students should write an original short story that includes a protagonist, antagonists, dilemma, climax, denouement, and theme. Students will have a packet with these details already worked out.

Requirements:

Three pages

One cover page with the title of their short story, the due date, Literature 8, and their name.

Two pages of typed text

12 point type size

Times new Roman font

Double spaced

Standard default margins

No bold type

Literature 8

Poetry Project

Seven pages:

-One cover page with a title for their collection of poems, the due date, Literature 8, and their name.

- Write three original poems using three **different** poetic devices we've studied. Poems must be at least 12 lines each.

- Three essays, one for each poem, explaining their poems. The first paragraph should include where they got their inspiration for the poem. The second paragraph should include an explanation of the three poetic devices they used. They should site the line each is used in and tell why it is an example of that device. The third paragraph should explain what the theme of their poem is.

Each poem should be on a separate page as should each essay. The essay should follow the poem it explains.

Page 1 - Cover page

Page 2 - Original poem

Page 3 - Essay on that poem

Page 4 - Original poem

Page 5 - Essay on that poem

Page 6 - Original poem

Page 7 - Essay on that poem

Students may use any type size and font they wish for this project.

Literature 8

Poetry Presentation

Select a poem that you really like. You need to have two copies on the day of the presentation, one for you and one to turn in to me. You will give an oral presentation by reading your poem, and explaining what the poem is actually saying (paraphrasing). You must also explain any poetic devices used in the poem and discuss the theme of the poem. You may use notes during your oral presentation. This project will count as three homework and three test grades.

Short Story Vocabulary

Protagonist: The main character of the story. Can be one person or a group of people. Always faces a dilemma and present in the climax. Always has some revelation or realization that he needs to have.

Dilemma: A struggle between opposing forces. The conflict can be internal or external. It's often a problem the protagonist needs to solve or a realization that he needs to have.

Climax: That point in the story where you know that the protagonist has resolved his dilemma. It must be a direct quote from the story. The protagonist must be present in the climax.

Denouement: What happens as a result of the protagonist solving his dilemma. Not every story has one.

Antagonists: Forces upon the Protagonist creating his dilemma. Must have both positive and negative forces or there is no dilemma. They can be a person, thing, situation, or belief.

Theme: A universal truth about people – the things they do, the way they are, that can be applied to your life. Not a dippy moral.

Characterization: A drawing of three-dimensional characters that include looks, personality, character traits. In a short story it needs to be done quickly.

Plot: What happens in a story. Limited in a short story.

Setting: Where the story takes place. Includes description and sensory images.

Title: Name of the story. Often an important key into the meaning of the story.

Oxymoron: Figure of speech in which opposite or contradictory ideas or terms are combined for a certain effect. (Bittersweet, horribly good.)

Connotation: An emotional impact of a word or phrase beyond its literal meaning.

Science Fiction: A literary genre that deals with people or worlds that do not exist in our reality. Based loosely on scientific principles.

Flashback: A literary device where an event from the past is inserted into the present. Seems as if it is happening in present time. Shows how the present is influenced by the past.

Chronological Order: The order in which events actually occur in time.

Foreshadowing: A device where the author gives clues that hint at later events in the story. Makes surprise endings more believable.

Red herring: False clue meant to mislead.

Foil: Anyone serving to set off/contrast someone different or superior.

Symbol: Something that has meaning in itself and also stands for or represents something else. (American flag – patriotism, Dove – peace, Crucifix – our faith)

Surprise ending: Unexpected twist at the end of a story that you did not predict. Must be believable. Use of foreshadowing to hint at the surprise so it is believable.

Irony: Figure of speech in which the actual intent is expressed in words which carry the opposite meaning. Lighter than sarcasm.

Dramatic Irony: A contradiction between what a character thinks and what the audience or reader knows to be true.

Irony of situation: An event occurs that directly contradicts the expectations of the character or the reader.

Allusion: Reference in a work of literature to person, place, or thing in another work such as literature, music, history, painting, or mythology. Adds meaning to the story.

Willing suspension of disbelief: Reader voluntarily agrees to set aside what he knows to be true and accept what is presented as reality in the story.

Alliteration: Repetition of an initial consonant sound in two or more words of a phrase. Consonant is picked to enhance meaning. (Huge, hooting, howling, hissing, horrible, bellow)

Point of view: The way an author chooses to see and tell a story.

First-person narrative: A character tells the story referring to himself as "I" and presenting only what he knows about events.

Inference: Reasonable conclusion one can draw from facts or evidence given.

Caricature: The distortion or exaggeration of the peculiarities in a character's personality. Often for humorous effect.

Poetry Vocabulary

Connotation: Emotional impact attached to words beyond their literal meaning.

Paraphrase: Putting something into your own words. In poetry, you lose the musical quality and rhyme

Prose: The ordinary form of written language. Everyday speech.

***Personification:** Giving human qualities or characteristics to inanimate objects or animals.

Narrative poem: A poem that tells a story in poetic form. Contains plot, setting, characters, etc. Relies on rhythm and rhyme. Organized in stanzas.

Stanzas: Groups of lines that form units in a poem.

Ballad: A Narrative poem that tells a simple and dramatic story. Intended to be sung or recited. Has strong rhythms and rhymes.

***Juxtaposition:** The placing of two images or ideas side by side allowing the reader to make the comparison. Not a direct comparison.

Rhythm: A pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables in the lines of a poem. Usually contributes to meaning.

Rhyme: The repetition of sounds in words that appear close to one another in a poem.

End Rhyme: The repetition of sounds in words which occurs at the end of two or more lines.

Refrain: A word, phrase, line, or group of lines that is repeated regularly in a poem.

Infer: A reasonable conclusion one can draw on clues or evidence given.

Figurative language: Language that is meant to be interpreted imaginatively, not literally. (I'm so hungry I could eat a horse.)

***Simile:** A comparison between two basically unlike things using the words "Like" or "AS."
(She is like the sun.)

***Metaphor:** A direct comparison between two unlike things saying something **is** something else.
Doesn't use "Like" or "As." (She is the sun.)

***Extended metaphor:** A comparison that makes more than one continued point of comparison.

***Imagery:** The use of vivid language to describe people, places, things, and ideas. Creates a mental picture. Suggests how things look and also how they sound, smell, taste, and feel.

***Alliteration:** The repetition of an initial consonant sound in two or more words in a phrase.
Picked to enhance meaning.

***Onomatopoeia:** The use of a word or phrase that actually imitates or suggests the sound of what it describes. (Buzz, Whir)

*** Symbol:** Any person, place, or thing that has meaning in itself and also stands for or represents something else. (Flag – nation, Dove – peace.)

***Parallel structure:** The repetition of a grammatical structure. (Example on pg. 556 & 565)

Lyric poetry: Poetry that expresses the poet's thoughts and feelings. Creates a mood through vivid images, descriptive words, and the musical quality of the lines.

***Sensory language:** Language that appeals to the senses.

Free verse: Poetry with irregular rhythms and varied line lengths. Free of traditional forms of poetry. Similar to regular speech.

Concrete poetry: Poetry in which the shape of the poem on the page resembles the subject of the poem.

Stereotype: an oversimplified mental picture or judgment.

Literature 7

The Pearl Projects

Students should use their talents to create a project demonstrating some aspect of The Pearl. They may create a dance, musical composition, painting, poem, or do a research paper. Poems and research papers will be graded for spelling, grammar, and punctuation. A research paper might be on Mexico, Mexican Indians, pearls, Native Mexican food, or other related topics. Poems must be a minimum of 15 lines typed and should include graphics or original decoration on the page.

Literature 7

Sitcom Drama Project

Students should write an original scene for an established television sitcom. The sitcom must get prior approval from me. It does not have to be currently on the air. It may not be an animated sitcom. Students in the past have used Home Improvement, I love Lucy, Everybody Loves Raymond, etc.

All stage directions should be in parentheses, italicized, and single spaced. All dialogue should be single spaced with the speaker's name in bold type. There should, however, be a clean space between each speaker or between stage directions and dialogue. The following is an example:

(Brad and Mark are sitting at the kitchen table eating cereal.)

Brad: Mark, Do you know where Mom is? I really need to talk to her about a problem I'm having at school.

Mark: I think she had a doctor's appointment or something. *(Picking up the cereal box.)* Can't it wait until later?

(Brad walks to the refrigerator and gets out some orange juice.)

Mark: Did you get into trouble or something?

Requirements:

Cover page:

Name of the Sitcom

Original name for the episode they are writing

Literature 7

Due Date

Their name

Two pages of typed dialogue

12 point type size

Times New Roman font

Standard default margins

Novel Vocabulary

Genre: A group, type, or classification of Literature. (Novel, Poetry, etc.)

Plot: What happens in a story. Multiple plots and subplots in a novel

Setting: Where the story takes place. Includes description and sensory images. Multiple settings in a novel.

Title: Name of story. Often an important key into the meaning of the story.

Characterization: Drawing of three-dimensional characters including looks, personality, character traits.

Dilemma: A struggle between opposing forces. The conflict can be internal or external. It's often a problem the protagonist needs to solve or a realization that he needs to have.

Climax: That point in the story where you know that the dilemma has been resolved.

Denouement: What happens as a result of the dilemma being resolved.

Antagonists: Forces creating the dilemma. Must have both positive and negative forces or there is no dilemma. They can be a person, thing, situation, or belief.

Theme: A universal truth about people – the things they do, the way they are, that can be applied to your life. Not a dippy moral.

Parable: Short tale that illustrates a universal truth, a belief that appeals to all people.

Foreshadowing: A device where the author gives clues that hint at later events in the story. Makes surprise endings more believable.

Symbol: Something that has meaning in itself and also stands for or represents something else. (American flag – patriotism, Dove – peace, Crucifix – our faith)

Drama Vocabulary

Genre: A group, type, or classification of literature (Drama, short story, etc.).

Characterization: The developing of three-dimensional characters: not just what the person looks like, but who they are on the inside, what kind of person they are, what they stand for and believe. A good author shows you the personality through what a person says and does.

Casting: Picking the right person for the role.

Setting: Not just where and when the story takes place, but all of the visual details that make up the look of the drama. Limited by time, space, and money.

Staging: Creating the illusion of the setting.

Director: The person who translates the drama from the written word in to visual.

Dialogue: The words the character speaks.

Costuming: The way the characters are dressed. Can be used to create mood, illusion, and set the piece in a particular time.

Plot: What happens in the story, may not be sequential. Has to hold the audience's attention, visually interesting.

Theme: A universal truth about people – the things they do, the way they are, that can be applied to your life. Not a dippy moral.

Infer: A reasonable conclusion one can draw from facts or evidence given.

Aside: A character speaks directly to the audience. Through asides, characters in a play reveal directly to the audience their thoughts or other characters' thoughts. Usually delivered in confidence pretending that other characters cannot hear.

Nota Bene, N.B.: Note well. Used to call attention to something important.

Flash-pot: A device that creates a burst of fire and smoke that creates a magical effect.

Soliloquy: A speech in which a character talks to himself or the audience and reveals what he is thinking. Longer than an aside.

Scrim: A light, semi-transparent curtain.

Protagonist: Main character of a story, can be one person or a group of people.

Conflict: A struggle between opposing forces. Can be internal or external.

Parody: A humorous mimicking of a serious piece of literature.

Flashback: A literary device where an event from the past is inserted into the present. Seems as if it is happening in present time. Shows how the present is influenced by the past.

Foreshadowing: A device where the author gives clues that hint at later events in the story. Makes surprise endings more believable.

Euphemism: A nice way of saying something that is not usually nice (fat = big bones).

Literature 6

Nonfiction Project

Students are to write a biography of a family member. It may be a parent, grandparent, aunt, etc. They should include important events in the person's life, his or her accomplishments, people and events that have made the person who he or she is today, and goals for the future if the person is still alive. It should *not* be just a list of dates telling what has occurred in his or her life. Students should tell about the personality and character traits of the person and how he or she got to be that way.

Requirements:

Three pages

One cover page with the title of their biography, the due date, Literature 6, and their name.

Two pages of typed text

12 point type size

Times new Roman font

Double spaced

Standard default margins

No bold type

Literature 6

Myth Project

Students should write a myth imaginatively explaining the existence of something in our natural world. An example might be to creatively explain how the Atlantic Ocean came to be. Students may not use explanations for how animals came to be.

Format for project:

Two pages plus a cover page.

Cover page should contain the name of their Myth, student's name, and the due date.

Double-spaced

12 point type

Times New Roman font

Standard default margins

Literature 6-

Cinderella Folk tale Project

Students should write a creative, imaginative retelling of the Cinderella story.

They may change the time, place, and events of the story while still keeping the key elements of the story. For example, they might set the story in modern times and have her lose a sneaker at the middle school dance.

Requirements:

Cover page with title of their story, due date, Literature 6, and their name.

One full page minimum of text.

12 -point type size

standard default margins

No bold type

Double spaced

Times New Roman font

Nonfiction Vocabulary

Genre: A group, type, or classification of Literature. (Short Story, Poetry, etc.)

Letter: A written communication from one person to another. In personal letters writer shares information, thoughts, and feelings with one other person.

Journal: A daily account of events and the writer's thoughts and feelings about those events.

Media accounts: Reports, explanations, opinions, and descriptions written for television, radio, newspapers, and magazines.

Essay: A short piece of nonfiction in which a writer presents a personal view of a topic.

Expository essay: A short, nonfiction piece that explains or gives information about a topic.

Autobiography: The story of a person's life written by that person. Includes key events of a person's life and reveals his struggles, values, and ideas.

Biography: The story of someone's life told by someone else. The subject is known and of interest to other people. Tells you the facts of the subject's life and explains what these facts mean.

Narrative essay: A short nonfiction composition that tells a story that may focus on a character other than the writer.

Descriptive essay: A short nonfiction composition that uses vivid sensory details to describe people or places.

Personal essay: A short nonfiction composition that gives an informal account of an episode from a person's own life.

Reflective essay: A short nonfiction composition that presents a writer's thought about ideas or experiences.

Persuasive essay: A short nonfiction composition where a series of arguments are presented to convince readers to believe or act in a certain way.

Humorous essay: A short nonfiction composition meant to amuse readers. Writers sometimes create humor by contrasting the reality of the situation with the character's mistaken views of what is happening.

Humorous commentary: Writing that contains amusing personal observations or opinions to help readers look at life a little less seriously.

Analytical essay: A short nonfiction composition that breaks down a big idea into parts. Helps the reader understand how the parts fit together and what they mean as a whole.

Tribute: A literary expression of gratitude or admiration to honor a special person. Describes a person's traits.

Facts: Statements that can be proved true with reliable sources. Can be verified.

Opinions: Beliefs or judgments. Not subject to verification.

Character traits: The qualities that make a person, or even an animal, an individual.

Memoir: A biographical piece usually written by a relative or personal friend of the subject. Can be one person's recollection or based on interviews and anecdotes of several people.

Anecdote: Brief story about an interesting, amusing, or strange event.

Myth Vocabulary

Legend:

- Traditional story about the past
- based on real people/events
- passed down by word of mouth.
- Details increasingly exaggerated.
- Have fantastic details, larger than life characters, amazing feats.
- Reveals culture's attitudes/values.

Folktales:

- Communicates values/ideals.
- Composed orally.
- Passed by word of mouth.
- Anonymous.
- Has heroes, amazing feats of strength or daring.
- Solves problems.
- Uses repetition to make easy to remember.
- To be authentic, must have at least two versions

Myth:

- Stories about gods and heroes.
- Deals with right/wrong.
- Explains world in human terms.
- Explains natural occurrences.

Fable:

- Teaches lessons at end of story.
- Short.
- Underdeveloped characters, situations, conflicts.
- Animals act like humans.
- Points out our human failings/weaknesses.

Folklore: Records the customs, traditions, and beliefs of people.

Yarn: A tale or story filled with exaggeration. The subject is the best, worst, or most unusual of its kind.

Conflict: A struggle between opposing forces. It can be internal or external.

Folkhero: An extraordinary person, glorified for his/her wonderful qualities that are far superior to the common man.

Exaggeration: Overstatement, often used for a humorous effect.