

Independent Reading Project – Semester 1

English 1
Mr. Maxfield

Due Dates: Reading Counts – November 9
Paper Bag Book Report – November 21

Book Choices:

After taking the SRI exam, you can print out a Recommended Reading Report. You may select a book from this list or any book within 200 points of your lexile level. The book you choose must have a **Reading Counts Quiz**. It will be your responsibility to obtain this book from the MHS library, a public library, or a bookstore. After reading the book, you will then take a Reading Counts Quiz.

Value: 100 points

Half of your grade (50 points) will be determined by the score you receive on the Reading Counts Quiz. Each quiz will consist of 30 random questions from the book. If you score 24 correct (80%) or better, your score will be locked in. If you score under 80% you may take the quiz again. You will only be allowed to take a quiz 3 times. If you fail to score 80% after 3 attempts, your highest quiz percent will be your score. Example: 60% x 50 points = 33 points

The other half of your grade will come from your paper bag book report. See the separate handout for instructions.

Extra Credit:

After you have passed a quiz on your first book, you can receive 5 points extra credit (per book) for passing quizzes on any of the other books on the list or other books of an appropriate lexile level. Please see me for book approval.

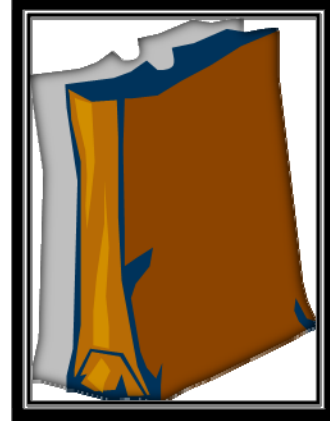
***Books you have read in past school years will not count toward extra credit. The Reading Counts system keeps track of all books you have previously quizzed over. Also, books you read as part of your previous literature classes (*Holes*, *The Outsiders*, etc.) will not be approved for credit.**

Paper Bag Book Report -

You will be completing a paper bag book report as an assessment for your independent reading novel.

On the Outside....

For this book report, you must consider each the following: **setting, plot, main character, and theme.**



There are four panels on a paper bag. You will be expected to dedicate one panel of your brown paper bag to each of these four elements.

1. For the setting, you must include the time and place (if there is more than one time/place include those too). As well, you must create a small illustration to add to this panel that illustrates one of the main settings in the novel.
2. You must summarize the plot in a few sentences – keep it short and sweet. Many times, this is more difficult than writing a lengthy description.
3. Tell about the main character on the third panel. Do not focus on the physical and the obvious. Tell how this character changed throughout the story. What happened to him/her to cause this change etc.? You can include the obvious information (family background, physical traits etc.). However, don't include **ONLY** this information. **As well**, list the other major/minor characters in the story by name on this panel.
4. The final panel must be about the theme of the book. What is the theme(s) and what are your feelings about the message in this novel?



- The information for each panel must be **neatly written/typed on a small piece of paper and glued/taped to the bag**. You won't need any more than a paragraph or so for each panel.
- **Be sure to include the title of the novel, author and your name clearly on the outside of the bag**

On the Inside...

You must include **10 items in your bag** that have some significance to the story. Be imaginative...Think outside of the box. You can use toys, modeling clay, or anything else that may represent something important from the story.

Make sure each item that you pick is unique and include a one sentence descriptor attached to the item about its significance.



You will be expected to share your book report with the class (inside and out) and will be marked on: inclusion of the setting, plot, major character, theme and conventions (for the outside of the bag), your ten items inside the bag and your overall speaking/listening skills during the presentation. This will be worth 50 Points.
Have fun and do your best!

Name: _____

Date: _____

Paper Bag Book Report Rubric

Category	4 – Excellent	3 - Good	2 – Fair	1 - Inadequate
Setting	Includes ALL settings and times that were important to the book, as well as an appropriate illustration	Includes most of settings and times that were important to the book, as well as an appropriate illustration	Includes either some settings and times that were important to the book or an appropriate illustration	Includes incorrect or incomplete settings/times and/or an incomplete illustration
Plot	Includes ALL key events to story, without retelling the entire book; includes only the most necessary information	Includes most key events to story, without retelling the entire book; includes only the most necessary information	Includes some key events to story, but excludes other important events	Includes an inadequate explanation of the plot, excluding many of the key events
Main Character	Includes ALL important information about the main character (including how s/he changed over the course of the story, as well as the more obvious character traits) ALSO, names ALL other major and minor characters that were discussed in the story	Includes most important information about the main character (including how s/he changed over the course of the story, as well as the more obvious character traits) ALSO, names most/all other major and minor characters that were discussed in the story	Includes some important information about the main character, but excludes other Information ALSO, names some other major and minor characters that were discussed in the story	Includes little important information about the main character OR chooses a minor character rather than the main character May or may not include other major and minor characters that were discussed in the story
Theme	Includes a complete description of the theme(s) of the book AND a well explained personal opinion concerning the theme(s)	Includes a good description of the theme(s) of the book AND a well explained personal opinion concerning the theme(s)	Includes some information about the theme(s) of the book, but omits the personal opinion about the theme(s)	Includes incomplete/ inaccurate information about the theme(s) and may or may not include an opinion about the theme(s)
Conventions	All spelling and punctuation is correct; title, author and name are included	Most spelling and punctuation is correct; title, author and name are included	There are many errors with conventions; title, author and name are included	There are multiple errors with conventions; key information missing

On the Inside: Students will receive one mark for each unique item that they have included inside the paper bags for a total of ten marks (Be sure to label each with a sentence strip)

Total: _____