

Summer Reading Project: Book Cube

Your final evaluation for your summer reading is to design a book cube. You will be responsible for 6 aspects of your book. They are as follows:

- **Side 1: Design a book cover for your book.** While your book probably already has an adequate cover, redesign a new, improved cover, featuring an important aspect of the book. It should be creative and include the title, author, and *genre* of your book. Don't just copy the existing cover or use a movie poster.
- **Side 2: Represent the *protagonist* in some way.** You may write a paragraph about how the protagonist is *characterized*, or you may write a poem about him/her. Make a collage or write from his/her perspective, the choice is yours. Just make sure your representation clearly portrays the main character.
- **Side 3: Represent a crucial scene and label what's happening in it and why it's important.** You could draw the scene or write a paragraph describing it. Make sure you fully explain what happened in the scene and why it's significant to the plot.
- **Side 4: Create a *plot map*.** It should include *exposition*, *rising action/conflict*, *climax*, *falling action*, and *resolution*. Your plot map may actually be a map, diagram, timeline, or just an explanation of the plot structure. Include enough detail to give a sense of what happened in the book and that you read the whole thing.
- **Side 5: Tell the *point of view* and discuss two literary devices or techniques the author uses.** Explain the point of view of the story and give an example. Also give examples of the literary devices to support what you pick and explain why the author may have used these two devices. Some examples of literary devices and techniques are *characterization*, *imagery*, *symbol*, *irony*, *foreshadowing*, *theme*, etc.
- **Side 6: Write a one paragraph review of the book.** It should explain what message you got from the book and what happened in the book to create that message. Include whether its message was effective, why you feel that way, and what type of person would benefit from it.

How you present your book cube is up to you. You may wish to create an actual cube by writing/drawing each side on a piece of paper and gluing each one onto a side of a box. (If you use a full tissue box, I'll give you 5 points of extra credit.) Or you may wish to write a more formal book report that includes the above six sections. You have a fair amount of freedom in this project. Get creative, since I will be looking at your creativity as well as your ability to analyze your book.

Remember, however, that I may not have ever read the book that you read so I'll be grading you on how clearly and completely you present the information on the six sides. When designing it, ask yourself, "Would a person who has never read this book be able to get a sense of what it is about?"

This project is due no later than Friday, September 27th.

This assignment is complicated. If you are having trouble with it, please talk to me about it in class. If you need a lot of help, make an appointment to see me either before school, during any of my free periods, or after school. I love to help, so there's no reason to fail to do something on account of confusion.

Crash Course in Literary Terms

genre—

protagonist—

antagonist—

characterization—

plot—

exposition—

rising action—

climax—

falling action—

resolution—

conflict—

foreshadowing—

imagery—

irony—

symbol—

theme—

metaphor—

point of view—

setting—