

## Book Report Assignment

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Marking Period

**Directions:** You must select a historical fiction book to read that takes place in America between 1790-1870. The book must be at your reading level and approved by Mr. Faupel. After finishing the book, you must select one of the following options to do as a book report:

1. **Write a Letter:** Write a letter from the main character to a friend, family member, or another character in the book. The letter should discuss the events that happened to the main character in the book. Each of the following elements should be described with detail: setting, other characters, important events (both factual and fictional). The letter should reflect the time period of the book and mention historical facts from that time. In addition to the body, your letter should have a date, greeting, closing, and signature. Also include an envelope with address, return address, and “stamp” to put your letter in.
2. **Publish a Newspaper:** This should look like a real newspaper and include the name of the paper, date, headlines and by-lines of articles, cost, and should be typed in columns (Look at a real newspaper for an example). Your main article should be about the plot (major event(s)) of your book. Also choose a minimum of 3 other short articles/sections to include in your paper: weather, obituaries, sports, editorial, news article, or something else (ask Mr. Faupel for approval). Include at least one advertisement that reflects the time period. Remember, newspaper articles include many facts and should be written as if it is “breaking news.” Details about the setting, characters, and main events should be included in your paper. If you have Microsoft Publisher on your computer, that would be a great program to use for this format.
3. **Traditional Book Report:** Answer the following questions in separate paragraphs. Remember, a paragraph consists of at least 3-5 quality sentences.
  - Paragraph 1: Describe the setting of this book in detail. When and where did the story take place? What historical facts did the author use for the setting? What was fictional? What were some things in the book that reflected this time period?
  - Paragraph 2: Describe the main characters and explain their importance to the story. What did they look like? How did they act? Were any of the characters real people from history? How did the time period affect the characters’ lives?
  - Paragraph 3: Write a summary of the story, explaining the important events (This may take more than one paragraph). Which events in the story really happened? Which events were made up, or partially made up? How did the time period affect the events of the book?
  - Paragraph 4: What was the main problem in the story? How was that problem solved? What was the ending of the story? What about the ending was factual? What was made up?
  - Paragraph 5: What is your opinion of this book? Could the events in the book have actually happened? What makes you think so? Would you recommend it to others? Why, or why not?
4. **Other:** If you have another idea for a book report that you think would work well with your book, you may present your idea to Mr. Faupel for approval. It must be **approved** by Mr. Faupel **ahead of time** or it will not be graded. You may not do a diary project if that is what you did for your first marking period project.

**All reports must:**

- Be typed or neatly written in pen (depending on the chosen format)
- Include specific details from the book, so that I can tell you read the book.
- Describe both historical and fictional aspects of the book.
- Accurately reflect the time period of the book.
- Correctly follow all directions and format from the option chosen from above.
- Be free of spelling, punctuation, and grammar mistakes (use spell-check **and** have someone proofread your report before you turn it in).

**Minimum Length Requirements:**

6<sup>th</sup> Grade: 250 words

7<sup>th</sup> Grade: 300 words

8<sup>th</sup> Grade: 350 words

**Due Dates**

- Friday, February 16- Choose book and get it approved by Mr. Faupel
- Monday, March 12- Finish reading book
- Monday, March 19- Rough Draft of Book Report Due
- Monday, March 26- Final Draft Due

This assignment will be worth 100 points. Drafts may be turned in any time before their due dates. Do not put this assignment off until the last minute! You will have some time in class to read your book, but some work will need to be completed at home.