**Independent Novel Study**

*English 9*

The following activities are to be completed for your **independent novel**. Choose one novel that you have read this semester that is appropriate for your grade and reading level. Once you have chosen a novel, let your teacher know the title and the author. Once you have made a final decision, you may not change your mind.

**If you are unsure of anything at any time… ASK!** This entire novel study pack is worth **75 marks.**

**\*\*\* DO NOT PLAGIARIZE – MAKE SURE THIS IS WRITTEN IN YOUR OWN WORDS \*\*\***

**Part One: Vocabulary (15 marks)**

As you read or look back on your novel, make a list of words that are unfamiliar to you. Choose **ONE** of the following vocabulary activities to complete with these words:

1. **Vocabulary Log:** choose at least 15 words from your novel that you do not know the meaning of. Write the dictionary definition for each word. For each word, note the page number in your novel and the dictionary where you found your definition.
   1. *Example:* discombobulated (pg.7): to be confused, upset, or frustrated. (Dictionary.com)
2. **Crossword:** create a crossword with at least 15 words from your novel. Provide a clue for each word and the answer key.

**Part Two: Reader Response (20 marks)**

Choose **TWO** of the following questions to complete your reader responses. Each response should be a full paragraph in MLA format.

1. Describe one important event in the book and explain why it is significant to the story (to the plot, the characters)
2. What are your feelings and thoughts about the novel based on one or more specific things you have read?
3. Tell about a connection you made with the story (text-to-self, text-to-text/media, or text-to-world.) Explain how your connection helped you understand the story better.
4. Give an example of a main conflict within the novel and explain which type of conflict this is (person vs. person, person vs. self etc.)
5. What is the climax of the novel? What major conflict leads up to it and what is the resolution afterward?
6. What is the theme or themes of the novel? Use evidence from the novel to support why you feel this is true.

**Part Three: Story Element Activities (30 marks)**

1. **Character (10 marks)** Choose **ONE** of the following activities to complete on character.
   1. In a short paragraph, explain why you would like to have one of the characters as a friend.
   2. Write an interview with one of the major characters.
   3. Draw a “Wanted Poster” for a main character.
   4. Make a character box. In a shoebox include 10 objects that would be meaningful to the main character. Provide a list with a brief explanation of why these objects are important to the character.
2. **Setting (10 marks)** Choose **ONE** of the following activities to complete on setting.
   1. Write a short paragraph explaining when and where the novel takes place. If your story has multiple settings, describe the two that you feel are most important.
   2. Sketch a scene in the book depicting a significant event in 5 frames or less.
3. **Plot (10 marks)** Choose **ONE** of the following activities to complete on plot.
   1. Find a song that best mirrors the theme of the novel. In a short paragraph, explain how this song connects to the book.
   2. Map out the story of your novel on a plot diagram. See teacher for template.

**Part Four: Book Talk (10 marks)**

Give a 1-2 minute presentation on your novel. Discussion points can include:

* What the book is about (without spoilers!) – Who is your main character? What is the conflict?
* What were your feelings about the book? (What did you enjoy? What did you not like?)
* Would you recommend the book?

Make sure to write and submit your discussion points.