

## Silas Marner

### Novel Projects

*Directions:* Choose **ONE** of the following projects. The projects will be 100 points and based on the novel *Silas Marner* by George Eliot. Each student is expected to do a 3-10 minute presentation on his or her project. Failure to speak for 3 minutes **will reduce the grade by half**.

#### 1. Poetry

Write **3** poems in response to the novel. The poems can be about the characters, setting or theme of the novel. Each poem must be a minimum of **15 Lines**. The poem will be graded on length, spelling, grammar, punctuation, and an understanding of the novels concepts.

#### 2. Create a Facebook or Twitter for Characters

Select **3** characters and design a Facebook or Twitter for each of them, picking out appropriate backgrounds and pictures and then creating information that would tell a viewer about your character. Create *at least 20 different actions* (likes, comments, favorites, reblogs, etc.) per character. Then, write up and post on the page an explanation of how you made the decisions you did and what you believe this tells us about the character. Make the Facebook/Twitter Feed in Microsoft Word (we cannot access Facebook or Twitter at school) or ask about Facebook Template.

#### 3. E-mail Directory

Create the e-mail directory of all the people you can imagine your character keeping in touch with on e-mail. Explain why you selected the people you did and what it shows about your character. Then construct **4** exchanges between your character and some of the people in your character's directory.

#### 4. Cartoon Squares

Create a series of **six** drawings in **six** squares that shows a significant event in the novel. Under each picture or cartoon write at least **4-5** lines of explanation. The cartoon squares should be neat. They should be outlined in ink/marker and should be colored.

#### 5. Scrap book

Think about all the kinds of mementos you would put in a scrap book if you had one. Then create a scrap book for **one** character in the novel. Cut out pictures from magazines, use actual items, or draw the mementos he or she would have in the scrap book. You can use an actual photo album found at any store or you can make your own book. The book should have at least **10 pages**. Each page should have a written explanation to why you chose those particular

mementos for that character. If you want to be extra creative, you can even make pages of the character's past or childhood!

## 6. Photos or magazine pictures

Find **5** photos or magazine pictures that would have special significance to a character from the novel (you can choose a different character for each photo/picture or you can use the same character for each picture). Mount them on construction paper and write a **two paragraph** explanation of each photo of why they would be important to your character. Make the pages into a mini booklet.

## 7. Name Analysis

Select **5** characters from the novel. Look up each of their names in a name book to see what the name means. Write all the meanings down and then write **2 paragraphs** for each character explaining in what ways the name is suitable and in what ways the name does not fit the character.

## 8. Detective Work

If a detective or police officer suddenly showed up in the novel, who or what would they be investigating? Write about what the detective is looking for, how he or she knew something was awry or needed investigating, and what was recommended. The story should be a **minimum of 300 words**.

## 9. Timeline

Make a creative timeline based on the key events of the novel. The timeline should be colorful and contain drawings, magazine clippings, photographs, etc. to enhance the events. The timeline should consist of **at least 20 events**.

## 10. Music

After reading the novel, figure out how you would divide up the book into sections. Then select a piece of music that you think captures the feel or tone of each section. Record the pieces and write a **3 paragraph** explanation to why that piece of music fit that section of the novel. The music can be burned on a CD or put on a USB drive to hand in. Please include the title of the piece of music and the name of the singer/band of the song.

## 11. A character's fears

One way we get to know characters is to think deeply about them and make inferences based on their actions and on what they and others say about them. Through a person's actions we can learn what they fear and what they want to avoid the most. Select **3** characters from the

novel and write a **200-250 word** explanation on what you believe they fear the most and what evidence you used to come to this conclusion.

## 12. Window Painting

After reading the novel, select a scene or moment that you feel is important to the overall theme of the novel. Then, create a mural to put on the window of the classroom using washable window paint. The picture must take up the entire window. Then, write a 200-250 explanation of why you chose this scene and how you expressed the scene on the window. Reminder: There are only FOUR spaces for this project!

## 13. Caricatures

George Eliot is famous for her character descriptions. Select three characters and pretend they sit at your caricature booth at a carnival. Draw them (faces and bodies) and explain why the characters look the way he or she looks. Be prepared to read the descriptions to the class during your presentation!

## 14. Music Video

Create a music video using **1** song that captures the overall tone or theme of *Silas Marner*. The music video should include characters that are recognizable and easy to spot. Film the music video and bring it in on a DVD or saved on a USB drive. Playing of the music video will NOT count toward the three minute presentation.

## 15. Movies

*Silas Marner* is being made into a movie, and you have been chosen as the casting director! Who in Hollywood would you cast as the characters in the novel? Are you going to do a twist and make it a modern adaption or perhaps a musical? For all characters, provide an explanation as to why you've chosen that particular actor or actress.

## **GUIDELINES:**

1. All written aspects of the projects will be graded on spelling, grammar, punctuation, etc and if all parts of the assignment were completed.
2. Creativity and evidence of preparation will be at least half of the grade.
3. If the project is late, the grade will be deducted a letter grade each day.
4. Projects can be handed in before the due date if finished.
5. The presentation needs to be between 3 – 10 minutes. If the presentation is under three minutes, the final grade will be reduced by half.

**Silas Marner**

**Novel Projects Grading Sheet**

**Creativity:** 25 \_\_\_\_\_

**FOLLOWED DIRECTIONS:** 25 \_\_\_\_\_

**MECHANICS:** 25 \_\_\_\_\_

**EVIDENCE OF PREPARATION:** 25 \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL:** 100 \_\_\_\_\_