

“MEET THE PRESS” BOOK REPORT

This project consists of reading and preparing a written and oral report on a book from an approved reading list. As you read, think about the characters and select one that you think would be the best one for an “interview” about their story. You will be writing this interview in the form of a script to present orally before the class with the help of a classmate.

Preparation:

1. Get a book listed on the approved reading list and read it entirely before your rough draft is due.
2. Then plan your oral presentation. Imagine that a reporter has heard about what happened in the story. He/She wants to interview one of the book’s characters for a six o’clock TV news broadcast. (If you don’t know how this is usually done, watch the evening news for a few nights and get ideas.)
3. Select a character from your book who can best answer a reporter’s questions about what happened. The character interviewed may be the main character or someone close to the main characters who knows what went on in the story. You will play that character in your class presentation.
4. Then write a script of what is said by the reporter and character during the interview. Your script should include questions about the character’s own life (when appropriate) and thoughts about what occurred, details about what happened (including where and when), and conclusions the character might make after experiencing or witnessing the events. Your interview must demonstrate that you are using information from the entire book. Remember that your character will speak in first person.

Your script should follow the following organization:

- a) The reporter will briefly tell the viewing audience who will be interviewed and why. This introduction will also include the title and author of the book. (You may provide a microphone during the interview as one of your props.) He/She may read from the script you have written.
 - b) Then the reporter (a classmate) and interview subject (you as that character) will ask and answer not less than 10 questions about what happened in the story. Remember that this is a dialogue, so the questions must sound realistic. Each of you may hold a script, but you particularly are encouraged to try to work without looking at your paper. You need to be convincing as that character. You may earn extra credit if you dress in costume as this character.
 - c) The reporter will then close with a commentary to the audience. This part is read by the reporter from the script you’ve prepared. Remember that all TV reporters sign off by telling who they are and what channel they work for.
5. Select a willing classmate to read the reporter’s lines in your script. No student may be a reporter for more than two classmates. All students who are reporters will get extra credit for helping someone.
 6. Before the due date, have your script ready and practice with your reporter. (You wouldn’t want him to make your presentation look bad because the two of you hadn’t practiced.) Make two copies (a copier is fine), one script for each of you.

Presentation/Final Script:

7. You will be allowed 4-8 minutes for your oral presentation. Afterward, turn in one final copy of your script. The script must be typed or written neatly in blue or black ink. It should include your name and the due date at the top and all the words spoken in the interview at directed in #4 above.

Grading Criteria:

8. Based on the following:
 - a) script written as directed, neat appearance
 - b) acceptable grammar (some characters may use slang or dialect)
 - c) content and information provided in the script
 - d) your oral presentation and public speaking skills

Deadlines: Get the Book by _____ Recruit a Reporter by _____

In-Class Rehearsal will be on _____. (Your script rough draft is due by then.)

Oral Presentations and Final Scripts will be due on _____.

Student _____ Book Title _____

“MEET THE PRESS” BOOK REPORT SCORE SHEET

<u>Oral Presentation:</u>	Speech Clarity/Volume	0	4				
	Poise/Public Presentation	0	4	8			
	Willingness/Attitude	0	4				
	Conduct in Audience	0	4				
	Convincing	0	4				
<u>Final Written Script:</u>	Written as Directed	0	4	8	12	16	
	Appearance/Neatness	0	4	8			
	Grammar/Composition Skills	0	4	8	12		
	Content of Script	0	4	8	12	16	20
	Value as a Book Report	0	4	8	12	16	20
Extra Credit for Portraying the Character in Costume:		5					
Extra Credit for Serving as Another Student’s Reporter:		5 (once)	10 (twice)				
TOTAL POINTS EARNED:		_____					

Student _____ Book Title _____

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<u>Final Written Script:</u>	Written as Directed	0	4	8	12	16	
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	Grammar/Composition Skills	0	4	8	12		
	Content of Script	0	4	8	12	16	20
	Value as a Book Report	0	4	8	12	16	20
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Extra Credit for Serving as Another Student’s Reporter:		5 (once)	10 (twice)				
TOTAL POINTS EARNED:		_____					

