

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Miss Crossley/Moe

\_\_ LA Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Two-Part Informational Writing Project: *Little Women***

For this project you will be writing an informative essay and presenting your information in a chosen format. THEREFORE, you will have **TWO** assignments associated with this project to turn in.

1. Assignment 1: Informative Essay

- Prompt and rubric included in this packet
- We will complete this first!
- Essay is due **December 15<sup>th</sup> (first draft), January 5<sup>th</sup> (final draft)**

2. Assignment 2: Presentation

- Presentation options and grading checklist are included in this packet.
- We will complete this second! You may want to work on this outside of class if you need additional time: you will have 3 class periods to complete this after the essay.
- Presentation sign-up is on **January 9<sup>th</sup>**
- Presentations will be given **January 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>**

## Informative Writing Prompt: *Little Women*

The novel *Little Women* explores many topics related to navigating life. Although the book was set during and just after the American Civil War, many of the main topics are things that we must navigate today including: fitting in, choosing a job or career, dealing with separation and illness, and gender roles/expectations.

Using the evidence provided in your article(s), write an informative essay explaining one of the following topics from our novel study. The dark bullet points are major topics and the light bullets are possible focuses in exploring that topic:

- Finding Personal Identity
  - Dating / "The One"
  - Fitting in with Friends
  - Choosing a Job/Career
- Gender Roles
  - Boy/Girl "Jobs"
  - Compare to Today's Expectations
  - Want to Do vs. Have to Do
- Duty and Sacrifice
  - Want to Do vs. Have to Do
  - Choosing a Job/Career
- Poverty and Wealth
  - Fitting In
  - Social Differences
  - Social Expectations
- Illness
  - Treatment Then vs. Now
  - Impact or Effects on Family
  - Attitudes About (Then vs. Now)

Be sure to:

- Include a clear topic
- Focus on three main ideas
- Properly cite your information

Your written response should be in the form of a multi-paragraph essay.

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Use the space below and the back side of this page for brainstorming:

I want to write about:

Finding Personal  
Identity

Gender Roles

Duty & Sacrifice

Poverty & Wealth

Illness

Because...

Quotes I Want to Use:	Pg. #

How this is similar to something I've experienced or seen in my life:

### Informative Writing Rubric

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

My Score: \_\_\_\_ / 90 pts.

Category	Exceptional: 20 or 10	Good – Adequate – Lacking			Did Not Meet: 0
Thesis / Statement of Purpose  /20	Thesis is clearly stated with three clear reasons in the introduction and conclusion, <i>without</i> the words “I think that...” or “I believe...”.	15	10	5	Thesis is missing entirely or is informational (does not take a stand). Thesis lacks reasoning. Thesis includes the words “I think..” or “I believe...”.
Focus and Organization  /20	Body paragraphs follow the order presented in thesis. Consistent, logical transitions are used throughout. Main ideas and evidence remain focused on thesis/topic throughout; sub points follow a logical, clear order.	15	10	5	Body paragraphs do not follow the order presented in thesis. Main ideas are presented in a disorganized and confusing manner. There is little to no focus on the thesis/topic.
Evidence and Elaboration  /20	Evidence is relevant and supportive of topic. Evidence is smoothly integrated into the essay. Explanations logically tie the topic and the evidence together or extend reasoning.	15	10	5	Evidence has little to no relevance. Evidence is made up or does not come from credible sources. Evidence is not integrated at all into the essay. No explanation links topic to evidence and evidence to topic.
Citations  /20	All quotes and paraphrases include an in-text citation, using the proper formatting: parentheses at the end of the sentence containing author or article information and pg/paragraph #.	15	10	5	<b>NO</b> citations have been used in the paper at all.
Editing and Conventions  /10	Writer makes no errors in grammar, spelling, or formatting that distract the reader from the content.	8 - 7	6 - 5	4 - 3	Writer makes consistent errors in grammar, spelling, or formatting that distract the reader and make the essay hard to read.

Additional Feedback:
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**\*When you edit and revise your first draft, you MUST hand this rubric back in with your new draft to get credit or more points.**

## Presentation Options

For this project, you will present your essay information to the class using **ONE** of the following formats. Please select a project that will be interesting to you, engaging to the class, and suited to your personal strengths and interests.

1. Powerpoint Presentation: Create a digital informational presentation using a presentation software like Powerpoint, Prezi, GoogleSlides, etc. Use words and images to inform your audience. Minimum of 4 slides. Include your works cited page on your last slide.
2. Graphic Novel/Comic Strip: Create a short graphic 'novel' or comic strip highlighting the topic you chose. You will share your work with the class, so you must use color for interest and bind your work in some way (i.e., hole punched and tied, stapled, put in a report cover, etc.). Minimum of 2 pages. Include your works cited on the last page.
3. Pamphlet: Create an informational, paper pamphlet to distribute to your classmates. Your pamphlet should use words and images to inform your audience. Minimum of 1 page, front and back. Include your works cited on the last page. Work with your teacher to make 10 copies of your pamphlet before the due date.
4. Science Fair Project Poster: Create an informational poster to show to your classmates. Your poster must include your 3 main ideas in bullet points/text to aid your viewers in understanding and at least 2 visuals.
5. News Report: Create a video which uses your research to share a "breaking news story" about a topic of your choice. You must be dressed professionally, present in your best "news caster" voice, and decide which visual elements you want to include as part of your video. Your video should be 3 minutes long. Sources should be cited in the credits. (Vimeo, Imovie, Splice, Replay Magistro, and Clips are a few of the many video editing apps you may use.)
6. Film Dramatization: Choose or create a storyline from the book that relates to your chosen topic. Your film can be a scene from the book or a scene from today that you create to compare to the book. Sources should be cited in the credits of your film. It should be 3 minutes long. (Vimeo, Imovie, Splice, Replay Magistro, and Clips are a few of the many video editing apps you may use.)

Student Presenter: \_\_\_\_\_

My Score: \_\_\_\_ / 45 pts.

### **Presentation Checklist:**

To get full points, each checklist item must be met. Please hand to Miss Crossley/Moe before beginning your presentation.

- I prepared one of the presentation options before presenting to the class.
- I spoke for 3 minutes about my essay topic.
- I used a loud, understandable voice.
- I presented my information without reading off my project OR I used notecards to help me remember the information I wanted to present.
- I faced the class throughout my presentation.
- My presentation material made sense and was easy to follow.
- My media added to the presentation and didn't distract my audience.
  
- = 5 pts. X 7 items = 35 pts.

Reflection = 10 pts:

- How did I feel after my presentation? What went well? What would I change?