Frankenstein Mini-Research Project

Project Overview

Essential Questions:

- How can personal experiences, societal issues, and other books/art influence how and why a text is written?
- How do personal experiences, societal issues, and other books/art influence how and why a reader interprets and relates to a text?

Purpose of the Project:

- Part of the reason Frankenstein is considered a classic work of literature is because of all the different ways people can interpret it. In order for us to find the various meanings and find our own meanings, it is important that we learn a little about the context in which Shelley was writing.

Project Guidelines:

- In small groups, each of you will be assigned a topic on which you will become a mini-expert. You will then prepare a short lesson on your topic, including a visual aid (poster, PowerPoint, Prezi, etc.) and a study-guide that will teach the class what we should know about your topic in order to help us read Frankenstein. This does not have to be too long...just give us a taste so that the rest of the class has a basic understanding of your topic.

Topics:

- Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley, the author of Frankenstein
- Lord Byron: Romantic poet and friend to the Shelleys
- The Industrial Revolution
- The Myth of Prometheus, the subtitle of Frankenstein is “The Modern Prometheus”
- “Paradise Lost,” a poem by John Milton
- Mary Wollstonecraft, the mother of Mary Shelley
- Percy Shelley

I have provided 2 or 3 sources for each group to get started. You do not need to look for more sources.

Adapted from: http://www.thatenglishteacher.com/ap-lit-agenda-frankenstein.html
Project Requirements

Research and Analysis
We will be using the process to practice the research process. When researching and putting together your lesson, address the following:

- Find answers to the basic questions such as “who, what, when, and where?”
- Make your own analysis, as a result of your research, as to why it is significant for us to study this topic as we read *Frankenstein*.
- Make a connection: Explain how this topic relates to life or society today.

Visual Communication/Organization
- Your visual aid and study guide should have a clear, easy-to-read heading with a title and authors (you!)
- All the information should be grouped logically, either in paragraphs or bullet points with clear headings.
- Your visual aid must contain at least 4 images (with citations if necessary).
- These images should relate to your topic and enhance the meaning of your research and analysis.
- Be creative!

Writing
- The study guide and visual aid should be grammatically correct and include proper MLA citations
- Information should be factually accurate.
- No Plagiarism

Analysis/Teaching Others
- You will present the key information you collected and analyzed you your peers in an interesting and engaging 5-10 minute presentation.
- Present your visual aid and pass out copies of your study guide to the class (email it to me a day in advance and I can make copies, otherwise, you are responsible for making the copies.)
- Your classmates will take notes on your presentation, so your study guide should include the important information as well as blank spaces for notes to be taken in.
- The whole class will take a quiz based on all six topics. Therefore, you are responsible to making sure your peers get the correct information so they don’t bomb the quiz.

Adapted from: http://www.thatenglishteacher.com/ap-lit-agenda-frankenstein.html
Project Assessment

Checklist
Make sure you have all of these elements for a successful project:

____ Study Guide
- ___ Information Organized
- ___ Information Accurate
- ___ Space for notes
- ___ MLA Citations of all sources
- ___ Proofread

____ Visual Aid
- ___ Well-Organized
- ___ At least 4 images
- ___ Images relate to topic and enhance presentation
- ___ Information Accurate
- ___ MLA Citations (if necessary)

____ Content/Analysis
- ___ Factually Accurate
- ___ The who, what, when, and where information
- ___ How is this information relevant to interpreting *Frankenstein*?
- ___ Connection made to current life/society

Grading Rubric

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criterion</th>
<th>6-7: Exemplary</th>
<th>4-5: Proficient</th>
<th>2-3: Developing</th>
<th>0-1: Not Yet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information: (Focusing on the Topic)</td>
<td>All information is accurate; relevant, creative, or insightful focus; uses all sources provided</td>
<td>All information is accurate; focus on topic is clear; uses all sources provided</td>
<td>Most information is accurate; attempt to maintain focus on topic; uses 1 source</td>
<td>Information is not accurate or irrelevant; vague or no focus on topic; uses 1 source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis: (Developing the Topic)</td>
<td>Makes connection to current life/society; thoughtful response to how it relates to <em>Frankenstein</em></td>
<td>Makes connection to current life/society; basic response to how info relates to <em>Frankenstein</em></td>
<td>Missing either connection to current life/society of how it relates to interpreting <em>Frankenstein</em>.</td>
<td>No connection to current life/society made; no relation made to how info is relevant to interpreting <em>Frankenstein</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Guide</td>
<td>Well-organized; hits all key points; space for notes</td>
<td>Well-organized; hits most key points; space for notes</td>
<td>Somewhat organized; hits most key points; space for notes</td>
<td>Unorganized; does not address the key points/no space for notes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Aid</td>
<td>Well-organized; creative; contains 4+ images related to content</td>
<td>Well-organized; bland; contains 4 images related to content</td>
<td>Somewhat organized; contains fewer than 4 images related to content</td>
<td>Unorganized; contains 2 or fewer images or images not related to content</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

+2 points for correct MLA citations

Final Grade: /30

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