

# English Facilitation Project

One of the principles of my teaching philosophy is that a student should *own* his or her education. By that, I mean, that education should give you the tools to take in information and to process it critically for yourself, rather than training you to cling to the opinions, interpretations, and information handed down by the authority figure in the room.

Part of this process necessitates that I let other voices carry discussion. In order to do that, we must disrupt the usual setup: I speak, you be quiet, and to comment or question, you must raise your hand, and I must acknowledge you. This is where your facilitation project comes in 😊

In other words, you will teach. But really, you will *facilitate and guide* discussion for the class so that we are all learning from each other.

Your entire facilitation will span one class session: 45 minutes.

While you are leading discussion on an assigned text, the entire class will be responsible for reading the same text for homework before your group's presentation is due.

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## Here are requirements:

### **1. Study your assigned text.**

Your group members are your study group. Annotate the text and discuss your understanding and interpretations with each other. *Own the material. Be able to explain to each other what the text is saying.* This does not mean all group members must agree about everything, but you'll want to work through your interpretations. Begin to make connections, generate ideas for your project, etc.

### **2. Submit a short analysis of a major literary element in your story.** See "Short Analysis Handout."

### **3. In-class PowerPoint presentation (25-30 minutes):**

- **Include two pre-reading questions.** These questions should help the reader think about ideas related to the story. After creating the questions, **please provide an exemplary answer to those questions** (in other words, what do you envision to be an excellent response to the questions).

- **Present a storyboard:** Summarize the story with a visual depiction/story board. (Recall our Beowulf comic strip project). This will be more like a visual plot diagram, so in your story board you'll *identify the protagonist/antagonist, conflict, setting, at least 2-3 events in the rising action, the climax, at least one event from falling action, and the resolution.*

Supply quotes or captions for each part of the plot diagram. (There are different ways you can present a plot diagram for a story, so please do some brief research).

**- Discuss your analysis of the story. You will need to define two literary terms (you've already identified one in your short story analysis, so choose one more) and provide examples of these terms from the story you have read.** You should at least have two examples of your literary terms directly from the text.

**-Raise 3 post-reading questions for discussion.** Make sure your facilitation includes questions for discussion or assessment (to make sure the class is following you, or to gauge how much they understood what they read). You cannot facilitate group discussion if you do not engage the group in conversation. This is what a facilitation project is all about.

Here are some ways to come up with post-reading questions:

- The first question can relate back to the pre-reading questions and relate to the -- content/ideas within the story.
- The second question can ask the reader to personally connect to the story in some way.
- The third question can ask the reader to connect the ideas of the story to his/her community, the nation, or even the world.

**-Optional: Generate classroom engagement (optional and will count as an extra quiz grade):** You may introduce a brief classroom activity. Get creative with this also. For example, if you find that your story introduces an interesting debate on a particular social issue, you may begin or wrap up your session with a quick online poll (or printed survey), a short assessment, a simple game, or some other interactive activity. Alternatively, you may bring in an interesting article, study, current or historical event that you think connects well to your story.

### Some reminders:

Delegate the work equally as much as possible. As an individual, be responsible and make sure you are keeping up your contribution to the group work.

If there is conflict in your group pertaining to some individuals' lack of contribution, please keep me informed.

Please see Scoring Rubric for Facilitation Project handout for a detailed outline of how you should develop and deliver your presentation.