

Students going into 6th and 7<sup>th</sup> grade (due first day of school)

Read 2 quality fiction books at or above the 5<sup>th</sup> grade reading level

Complete 2 projects from the given choices, one for each book

1. A two to three min. book review video
2. I am poem from the point of view of one of the main characters of the book
3. Create a new front and back book cover to the book including your own descriptive preview of the book

### **Rubric for Book Review**

1. Read the book and take notes (turn in, at least 2 pages) about the impressions you have as you read the book. (30pts) Ideas to include when you discuss the book.
  - a. What caught your attention?
  - b. When were you bored?
  - c. When was it suspenseful?
  - d. What characters did you like and why?
  - e. Were the characters well rounded and believable?
  - f. Was the dialogue realistic?
  - g. Did the book address universal themes?
  - h. Was it funny?
  - i. Did the plot have twists, turns, and thicken or did it just plod along?
  - j. How did the book affect you?
  - k. Interesting?
  - l. Original or was it like another book you read?
  - m. Any other impressions?
2. Video book review
  - a. Length 2 to 3 min (5pts)
  - b. Title of the book revealed (10pts)
    - i. Tell if the book is award winning
  - c. Author of the book given (10pts)
    - i. Tell if the author has won any writing awards
  - d. Tell the genre of the book (10pts)
  - e. Discuss the writing style of the book (10pts)
    - i. Authors voice – point of view
    - ii. Fast paced
    - iii. Excruciatingly detailed
    - iv. Etc.
  - f. Discuss book (10pts)
    - i. Characters
    - ii. Setting
    - iii. Taste of the plot but don't give away surprises or ending
  - g. Pass judgment (10pts)
    - i. Form your opinion of the book
    - ii. Explain how you feel about the book and why
    - iii. Tell your audience to read or avoid the book
  - h. Creativity (5pts)

## **Rubric for Book Cover**

1. Read book and take notes (turn in at least 2 pages) make notes of all things that would make an interesting book cover (30pts)
  - a. Characters
  - b. Events in book
  - c. Setting
2. Design the book cover
  - a. Front cover (30pts)
    - i. Title of book
    - ii. Author of book
    - iii. Illustration/design/colored
  - b. Back cover (40pts)
    - i. Illustration/design/colored
    - ii. Descriptive preview in paragraph form
      1. In your own words
      2. Tell what the book is about to get others interested in reading the book without giving away surprises or ending

## Rubric for "I am" Poem

1. Read the book and pick one of the main characters and take notes (turn in, at least 2 pages) about that character (30pts)
  - a. Notes should include description and character traits
    - i. How did they act?
    - ii. How did they feel?
    - iii. How did they think?
    - iv. Include both good and bad traits
2. Create I am poem from the viewpoint of the character you picked
  - a. Title of book (10pts)
  - b. Author of book under title (10pts)
  - c. Title of Poem: I AM (5pts)
  - d. Stanza 1 (10pts)
  - e. Stanza 2 (10pts)
  - f. Stanza 3 (10pts)
  - g. Put characters name after last line of poem as seen in example (10pts)
  - h. Creativity of design (5pts)
    - i. Background, border, neatness

Poem format

I AM

Stanza 1

I am (adjective boy/girl and what you like/love)  
I wonder (what you wonder about your topic)  
I hear (an imaginary sound your topic makes)  
I see (an imaginary sight about your topic)  
I want (something you want for your topic)  
I am (repeat the first line)

Stanza 2

I pretend (your topic might do)  
I feel (a feeling about your topic)  
I touch (pretend your touching your topic)  
I worry (what bothers you about your topic)  
I cry (very sad when?)  
I am (repeat first line of poem)

Stanza 3

I understand (something you know is true about your topic)  
I say (something you would say about/to your topic)  
I dream (something you actually dream)  
I try (something you might try to do for your topic)  
I hope (what you hope for your topic)  
I am (repeat first line of poem)

Character name

I am poem examples:

**I AM**

I am a carefree girl who loves horses.  
I wonder if there ever was a horse that could fly.  
I hear the stomping of a hundred mustangs on the desert in Arabia.  
I see a horse with golden wings soaring into the sunset.  
I want to ride swiftly over a green meadow.  
I am a carefree girl who loves horses.

I pretend to be an Olympic jumper.  
I feel the sky pressing down on me as I ride along a sandy shore.  
I touch the clouds on a winged horse.  
I worry that I'll fall off and become paralyzed.  
I cry when a colt dies.  
I am a carefree girl who loves horses.

I understand that I will not be able to ride every day of my life.  
I say, let all horses roam free.  
I dream about the day when I have a horse of my own.  
I try to be the best rider in the world.  
I hope to ride all my life.  
I am a carefree girl who loves horses.

*—ELLY TATUM*

**I AM**

I am a nutty guy who likes dolphins.  
I wonder what I, and the world, will be like in the year 2000.  
I hear silence pulsing in the middle of the night.  
I see a dolphin flying up to the sky.  
I want the adventure of life before it passes me by.  
I am a nutty guy who likes dolphins.

I pretend that I'm the ruler of the world.  
I feel the weight of the world on my shoulders.  
I touch the sky, the stars, the moon, and all the planets as representatives of mankind.  
I worry about the devastation of a nuclear holocaust.  
I cry for all the death and poverty in the world  
I am a nutty guy who likes dolphins.

I understand the frustration of not being able to do something easily  
I say that we are all equal.  
I dream of traveling to other points on the earth.  
I try to reach out to poor and starving children.  
I hope that mankind will be at peace and not die out.  
I am a nutty guy who likes dolphins.

*—SANDY MAAS*