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**English 9 Independent Novel Planner**

**For this assignment, please choose a novel, memoir,**

**or biography that you have not already read.**

1. Novel Title: (Capitalize first, last, and all important words. Underline!)
2. Author:
3. Novel Lexile (Check this at [www.lexile.com](http://www.lexile.com)): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   1. **If your novel’s lexile (reading level) is 900 or higher**, proceed to #4.
   2. **If the lexile is below 900 or unavailable** on the website, you must:
      1. Write the lexile number or NA (not available) in the space provided, AND
      2. show Mrs. Post your book and have her initial this paper to approve it**.**
4. Genre: (Look it up if necessary.) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. How many pages are in your novel? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. How many chapters or sections are in your novel? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. Where did you get your novel? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. Why did you choose this novel? What do you specifically hope will be in this novel that interests you? Put some thought into your answer.
9. Please copy the **entire** first sentence of your novel here:
10. Novel Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
11. How many weeks are there between today and the due date? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
12. Use a calculator to determine how many pages you should read weekly to be finished by the due date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
13. How many days are there between today and the due date? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
14. Use a calculator to determine how many pages you should read nightly to be finished by the due date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
15. On what date should you be half-way through your novel? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
16. What page is the halfway mark in your novel?
17. **Please have your parent/guardian physically look at your book and sign on the line below to indicate his/her approval of your choice of book.**

I approve of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’s independent novel. Students who come to class without their novels are considered unprepared. I understand that while this novel should accompany the student to class each day, most of the reading will be done outside of class. Each student is expected to take his/her novel home and read it every day.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student signature Date

**DIRECTIONS**

Do you ask students to choose and read their own books independently during the school year? I use this two page document at the beginning of such an assignment to help students plan their reading as well as to communicate with their parents.

After students choose their independent reading novels, we complete their Independent Novel Planners together during class. The Novel Planners help students determine if their books are appropriate reading levels and determine how many pages students should read daily and weekly to finish on time. We also pinpoint a halfway date and what page each student should be on when we reach that date. It helps to have internet access and calculators available for student use.

Students then have time during class to read their novels. Finally, they take the Novel Planners home for their parents to sign if they approve of their student’s choice. I have found this to be an important step in parent communication to avoid situations where parents do not approve of a book’s content for their student. In this case, students choose another book, one that will win their parents’ approval.

Students then turn signed in Novel Planners the next day for a homework grade. I know what books everyone has chosen to read. Students have put some thought into their decision, and parents are involved in the process.

Please email me any questions you have. [mpost@ucasd.org](mailto:mpost@ucasd.org).

Enjoy,

Megan