

Challenged Book Project

Pretend that a group of parents who feel strongly about the need to protect their high school children from exposure to controversial materials has approached the local School Board with a demand to ban some books from the school system. This means removing the books from all school libraries, prohibiting their use in the curriculum, and prohibiting students and teachers from even having the books on school property.

The school board will conduct a public hearing on this important issue at its next meeting. Therefore, the school board has appointed a committee to research the pertinent issues, attend the hearing, and make a recommendation to the school board on how it should respond to the proposed ban. You have been asked to be a member of this committee. You know that some schools use mitigating measures such as “parent preview” opportunities for books, guest speakers to discuss the sensitive issues with the students, and alternate assignments, but you are uncertain about what will work best for your school.

As a committee member, you will:

- read the book on your own
- discuss the book with your fellow committee members in class discussions
- research a variety of viewpoints on book banning in general
- learn when, where, and why this particular book has been challenged
- write a 2 page essay explaining your recommendation to the school board regarding the proposal to ban the book
- present your recommendation to the “school board” (your classmates)

Challenged Book Project Grading Criteria

Preliminary Research Form	10 points
In-Class Discussion Activities (3)	
Discussion #1 (In Class on _____)	20 points
Discussion #2 (In Class on _____)	20 points
Discussion #3 (In Class on _____)	20 points
Agenjo Annotation and Analysis	10 points
Chang Annotation and Analysis	10 points
Trigger Warnings Analysis	20 points
Book Summary (MLA Format, Due via Canvas on _____)	30 points
Essay: 100 points (Due via Canvas on _____)	100 points
Content: Background of the Book and past challenges	
Content: Response to the challenge & recommendation to School Board	
Minimum of Four Sources	
MLA format with in-text citations and Works Cited page	
Free of major grammar, punctuation, spelling errors	
Peer Review	10 points
Presentation (On _____)	50 points
Project Total:	300 points

AcDv B61
Wojtysiak

Students select one of the following:

The Absolutely True Story of a Part-Time Indian by Alexie Sherman

Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger

The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling

The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky

To Kill a Mocking Bird by Harper Lee