

CHARACTER INTERVIEW PROJECT

Now that we have finished reading the novel “Where the Red Fern Grows” it is time for you to showcase what you know about Billy Coleman. Throughout the novel we experience the story from Billy’s point of view, but because of this we do not get to ask him some of the important questions about what happened in the novel, and why he did the things he did.

Your assignment is with a partner you are to create a 10-15 question character interview of Billy. One of the partners will be a modern day TV or News reporter and the other person is Billy answering the questions “in character” as you think he would answer. Be creative with your questions and answers but stick to what and how you think Billy would answer the questions.

TOPICS to Interview:

- Billy winning the Coon Hunting Contest
- Billy’s attack by the Mountain Lion
- Billy’s idea about the Legend of the Red Fern and his dogs’ connection

Once you have planned out your questions and answers and have created your “script” –you are to go through it with your teacher as they can assist you in what questions you need to ask or how you can alter your answers to fit Billy’s character. You will need to practice becoming Billy and go through the interview. You may wish to add any costumes or props (eg. Microphone, jacket or hat) but you do not have to. If you do add costumes or props they are to be a small part of the presentation-less is more.

After you have practiced and are ready you will present your interview in front of the class. Each person will be graded according to the rubric provided. You will have 3 classes to create, practice and prepare your interview.

CHARACTER INTERVIEW RUBRIC

	4	3	2	1	TOTAL
Questions Asked X2	The interviewers questions fit the topic chosen; there were a minimum of 10 questions; the questions were deeper thinking/ knowledge based	The interviewers questions MOSTLY fit the topic chosen; there were a minimum of 10 questions; MOST of the questions were deeper thinking/ knowledge based	The interviewers questions DID NOT fit the topic chosen; there were between 5-7 questions; MOST of the questions were simple and/or knowledge based	The interviewers questions were OFF TOPIC; there were less than 5 questions; ALL of the questions were simple and/or unrelated to the story	
Character Answers X2	The characters answers were well thought out; each answer had a deeper level of character knowledge or story knowledge	The characters answers were MOSTLY thought out; answers had an ATTEMPT at deeper level of character knowledge or story knowledge	The characters answers were MOSTLY thought out; answers had an ATTEMPT at deeper level of character knowledge or story knowledge	The characters answers were NOT thought out and were simplified; there was NO ATTEMPT at deeper level OR character/story knowledge	
Presentation	The presenters face the audience; they speak in clear loud voices. The presentation is obviously rehearsed. They have energy and good pacing throughout the scene. They have attempted to “become characters”	The presenters face the audience; they MAY need to speak louder or their voices are a bit unclear. The presentation is rehearsed with minor errors. They have energy and good pacing throughout the scene. There is some attempt to “become characters”	The presenters do not clearly face the audience; they need to speak louder and/or their voices are unclear. The presentation is NOT rehearsed and shows multiple minor errors. They lack energy and rush the pacing. There is MINIMAL attempt to “become characters”	The presenters do not face the audience; they CANNOT be heard or understood. The presentation is NOT rehearsed. They lack energy and rush the pacing. There is NO attempt to “become characters”	
Accuracy	The questions asked and the answers given show a clear level of accuracy and knowledge about the novel	The questions asked and the answers given show SOME level of accuracy and SOME knowledge about the novel	The questions asked and the answers given show MINIMAL level of accuracy and LIMITED knowledge about the novel	The questions asked and the answers given show NO understanding or accuracy of information about the novel	

Total /24