

OLENTANGY SCHOOLS LITERATURE SELECTION REVIEW FORM

LOCATION

Building(s): OHMS

Classes/Grade Level(s): ELA 8

ABOUT THE BOOK

Selection Title/Author: Genre: Projekt 1065/Alan Gratz/Historical Fiction

Lexile Reading Level: 780L

Total number of pages: 320

Book Summary (abbreviated, bulleted list or link to a book summary)

World War II is raging. Michael O'Shaunessey, originally from Ireland, now lives in Nazi Germany with his parents. Like the other boys in his school, Michael is a member of the Hitler Youth.

But Michael has a secret. He and his parents are spies.

Michael despises everything the Nazis stand for. But he joins in the Hitler Youth's horrific games and book burnings, playing the part so he can gain insider knowledge.

When Michael learns about Projekt 1065, a secret Nazi war mission, things get even more complicated. He must prove his loyalty to the Hitler Youth at all costs -- even if it means risking everything he cares about.

~Goodreads summary

Potentially Objectionable Content (list all categories and at least one example, referenced with a page or chapter number)

Because it is set in Nazi Germany, several instances of the poor treatment of Jews and war violence, including beatings, burning of Jewish religious texts, vandalization of Jewish property.

Violence Several examples of war below with chapter associations:

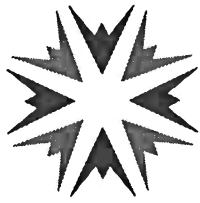
- Chapter: "German Blitz" includes a bombing. War violence is seen throughout the book, including falling debris cutting a character "in half."

Stereotyping/ anti-semitism Several examples throughout the book

- Chapter: "Culture Destroyers" is about the racist Nazi propaganda used at the school to train the boys.

Alcohol- only one example referencing alcohol

- Chapter: "Mission" includes a chloroformed character who is doused in alcohol to smell "drunk." Many adult characters smoke and drink.



Book Reviews (1-2 link(s)) Note: teacher is not responsible for broken links

Kirkus: <https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/alan-gratz/projekt-1065/>

Scholars Archive BYU <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=5334&context=cbmr>

ABOUT THE CLASS

Rationale for the Literature Selection (in addition to standards): (To be completed by the teacher or team)

Since most 8th grade students go on the Washington, D.C. trip, and visit The Holocaust Museum, reading books about The Holocaust gives us the opportunity to explore and share the different perspectives of those affected by this historical event. *Projekt 1065* is high quality and selected because it shows a range of realistic perspectives that provide an opportunity to analyze decisions and actions taken (or not) during a time or crisis.

The Ohio Department of Education ELA Standards (list priority standards *only* and abbreviations of the main ideas of the priority standards) [Link to Ohio's ELA Standards](#)

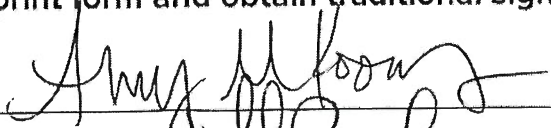



1. **RI.8.6** Determine an author's perspective or purpose in a text and analyze how the author acknowledges and responds to conflicting evidence or viewpoints.
2. **RI.8.3** Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals, ideas, or events (e.g., through comparisons, analogies, or categories).

ALTERNATIVE TEXTS

What alternative texts would allow students to meet the same objectives? (Title/author)

1. *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak
2. *The Boy on the Wooden Box* by Leon Leyson

SIGNATURES (embedded jpegs of authentic signatures are fine OR download/print form and obtain traditional signatures)

Teacher:  Date: 01/04/23
Department Chair:  Date: 1/4/23
Building Principal:  Date: 1/4/23
District Curriculum Administrator:  Date: 1/4/23

