ELA 3-4H
Outside Reading Project, 1st Semester

THE FIRST RULE OF BOOK CLUB IS: You don't talk about Book Club. THE SECOND RULE OF BOOK CLUB IS: Actually, you do talk about Book Club. Lots. You talk about short stories and films. And there are two projects involved, one of which is your written final. But I'm getting ahead of myself. THE THIRD RULE OF BOOK CLUB IS: only 5 students to a group.....

Pick a short story/novella and film combo. As you do, understand the following:

- Group choices are first-come, first-served.
- Some short stories/novellas have mature content. It is up to you to research and choose a short story that suits your comfort level and that of your parents or guardians. All short story/film combos will require a permission slip (attached).
- You will also be responsible for tracking down via Netflix, DVD, Youtube, etc. and watching—on your own time—the film version of the short story. Please make sure you choose a film that you can access without too much difficulty.

Read the story and discuss as a group (as much as possible) and watch the movie (again, together if possible). *You will be working on this the week of November 16th – 20th and will be responsible for 1 discussion board post per group per day on Canvas to show your book group's progress.*

➢ Truman Capote, "Breakfast at Tiffany's" & Breakfast at Tiffany's (1961, Not Rated)
➢ Daphne du Maurier, "The Birds" (1963, PG-13)
➢ James Joyce, "The Dead" (1987, PG)
➢ Daniel Keyes, "Flowers for Algernon" (*Charly*, 1968, PG)
➢ Ernest Hemingway, "The Snows of Kilmanjaro" (1952, Not Rated)
➢ Isaac Asimov, "The Bicentennial Man" (1999, PG)
➢ F. Scott Fitzgerald, "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" (2008, PG-13)
➢ Philip K. Dick, "The Minority Report" (2002, PG-13)
➢ Charles Dickens, "A Christmas Carol" (2009, PG)

But wait! There's more.....

INDIVIDUAL PROJECT

Each student will be responsible for a short passage analysis. You will need to pick a passage from your short story or novella that is different than everyone else's in your group and write a microtheme on how the author's style creates a certain mood/tone and how that mood/tone differs from or is similar to that of the movie—either the corresponding scene or a scene similar to your passage. Please refer to this handout for literary elements worth analyzing (not all of these will necessarily be important in your passage) and this one for tone words. Remember that your goal in the microtheme is to analyze the elements of the author's voice—diction, detail, syntax, etc.—in such a way that you can draw conclusions about the tone or mood of the passage and how it compares to the film. Here is a checklist of cinematic elements that might help you to determine the mood or tone of a certain film. Please specify whether you are discussing mood or tone, and remember that these concepts are not interchangeable!

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Criteria for Microthemes:

➢ Header should be different from multi-page essays; you must single space your header and only include your name, class title and period to maximize space.

Example: John Student
          ELA 3-4H, Period 2

➢ Your paper must be double-spaced in Times New Roman font; your paper must also be at least 3/4 page in length but must not exceed one page.

➢ Paper must include a creative title (no bold or underline)

➢ Your paper should have an <u>interpretable thesis</u>, <u>three quotes and correlative commentaries that avoid superficial analysis or summarizations</u>; <u>it should also include transitions that demonstrate fluidity throughout the composition</u>; <u>the paper must also include a concluding sentence that summarizes the microtheme</u>, without being redundant or repeating the thesis verbatim.

➢ You should use meaningful quotes that are not too long so you can fluidly integrating them into your essay; each quote should be cited properly using MLA format. Examples: (King) or (Fitzgerald 25).

➢ At the conclusion of your microtheme, you should include an MLA works cited entry for your source.

MICROTHEMES ARE DUE MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30th, and will count as your written final exam. They must be uploaded to Turnitin.com by noon on the morning of the 30th to receive credit. You are welcome to submit your microtheme early.

<u>**GROUP PROJECT**</u>

Using VoiceThread, create a presentation that demonstrates and proves (with examples) your comprehensive understanding of the short story's/novel's tone and mood as compared to that of your film. Draw conclusions about the author's intent vs. the director's intent. Consider how you'll give ample textual evidence as well as proof from the film. Include a works cited slide at the end of your presentation. Feel free to get creative with visuals, sound and text. Be proud of what you create!

[Tutorial on how to make a VoiceThread presentation](#) and [How to Create a Voice Thread](#)

[VoiceThread rubric](#) (will be adapted for 50 points)

VOICETHREADS WILL BE PRESENTED IN CLASS ON DECEMBER 4th. A working, active hyperlink is due to your teacher by 7:40 AM on DECEMBER 4th.