

# BOOK TALK

This Book Talk will focus on the **author** of the autobiography or memoir you read and the life experiences he or she shared in this work of nonfiction.

You will need to choose your book from the list provided no later than **Friday, September 19, 2014**

You will need to finish reading your book by **Wednesday, October 15, 2014**

**Tuesday, October 21**

Presentations will take place:

**Wednesday, October 22**

**Thursday, October 23**

- Your presentation must be at least 3 minutes long and no more than 6 minutes. Plan to time yourself as you practice so that you're sure of the timing. A presentation less than 3 minutes will need to be redone and, thus, considered late. A presentation that exceeds 6 minutes may be cut short which would result in an incomplete assignment.
- You should dress as the author and speak in the first person ("I") as you talk about "your" life.
- Be sure to include your author's name and the title of the book in your presentation.
- You should choose a style of presentation that "fits" your author in an effort to be as believable as possible.
- You should describe some of the most important experiences that your author had and explain why they were so significant.
- Just as we examine the conflicts fictional characters face in order to learn more about a piece of literature, you are encouraged to focus on the conflicts and struggles your author faced when choosing information for the presentation.
- You will need to bring in at least three objects ("props") which are important to your understanding of your author's experiences and explain each item's significance.
- You may use note cards as reminders throughout your presentation but not read from them as eye contact with your audience is essential to a strong delivery. This requires a careful reading (and possibly rereading) of the autobiography or memoir, adequate preparation, and lots of presentation practice. It is recommended that you have a parent or friend watch your presentation in advance of the due date and be receptive to his or her feedback.

All preparation for this presentation will be done outside of class.

Your Book Talk will be evaluated on:

- content
- organization
- choice and explanation of three "props"
- delivery



Keep in Mind...

Your primary task is to teach your audience about the person whose story you've read and to prove that you read the autobiography or memoir with care. Your presentation should be informative, understandable, and interesting. Entertaining is good, but not at the expense of the content.

Your delivery will shine if you make good eye contact with your audience, stand confidently, use your voice to keep attention, and avoid the "umms" and "you knows" that can detract from what you're saying.