

## NEWSPAPER FRONT PAGE BOOK REPORT PROJECT

You will be designing a front page of a newspaper based on your Historical Fiction Independent Reading book. The name of the newspaper and all articles, features, and "extras" should relate to your book and reflect a close reading of the text. In addition, the project should exhibit both creativity and care. All articles, artwork, and extras will be completed at home, but the layout will be done at school using "Pages" so that you have the look of a real newspaper. Your final project will use either an 8.5x14 or 11x17 piece of paper.

### **NAME OF NEWSPAPER, LOCATION AND PUBLICATION DATE--REQUIRED**

**Nameplate**--Create a nameplate that spans the entire width of the top of the page.

Example of a nameplate:



The nameplate should include the title of the newspaper, the location and a date of publication. All of these should relate to your book. Sometimes nameplates also include a teaser or tagline to draw in the reader. For example, the one above says "New York's Hometown Newspaper."

### **ARTICLES AND FEATURES--REQUIRED**

**Summary**--At the top of the page, write a plot summary of your book in several well-developed paragraphs. Make sure you answer the *who*, *what*, *where*, *when* and *why* of newspaper reporting. Include a headline that catches the attention of the reader.

**Setting**--Describe some of the most interesting information you learned about the setting (both the location and time period) of your Historical Fiction book. This article must include several paragraphs (not lists or bullet points) and should be well-organized. You may do additional research, if necessary, to full explain the information you choose to share. Include a headline that catches the attention of the reader.

**Character**--Write a brief article about the main character. This could be in interview form, an obituary, or any other format you desire as long as you include who the character is, what s/he did, and any additional interesting details that give us a full picture of this character. Include a headline that catches the attention of the reader.

**Original Artwork**--Include some form of original (made by you) artwork. This can be an illustration of a character or scene from the book, an editorial cartoon, or a 3-4 panel comic strip related to the content of your book. Any kind of artwork must include a title that catches the attention of the reader. If you include an illustration (rather than a cartoon or comic strip), you must include a "picture caption" so it is clear how your artwork connects to your book.

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## **ARTICLES AND FEATURES--REQUIRED (continued)**

**Advertisement**--Create an advertisement for a location in your book or an object in your book that has special importance. For either, include some type of picture that relates to the place or object (such as a photo or illustration) and enough information in the text of the advertisement so that it is clear how it relates to your book.

## **ARTICLES AND FEATURES--YOUR CHOICE [include at least one (1) of the following]**

**Advice Column**--Pretend at least two characters in your book wrote letters to an advice columnist seeking advice about important problems in the book. Write a response to each letter that is related to how that problem is solved. Include a headline.

**Letter to the Editor**--Choose a significant issue in your book and take a position on it. Compose a letter that represents your understanding of the issue and how you feel about it. Include a headline.

**Book Review**--Write a review of your book using the techniques you mastered back in November. Be sure to fully explain what you like or dislike about the book. Incorporate at least one quotation from the book to support your opinion. Include a headline.

## **EXTRAS--YOUR CHOICE [include at least (1) of the following]**

**Crossword Puzzle**--Use words or events from the story to create a crossword puzzle with a minimum of 10 clues. A small image of the puzzle with the solution should be included somewhere on the front page. Include a headline.

**Weather**--Describe the weather for a particular day (or series of days) as it relates to your book. Include a brief explanation of why the weather situation is important to understanding an event that takes place in your book. Include a headline.

**Classified Ads**--Create a series of at least five "help-wanted" ads, "lost and found" ads, and/or "for sale" ads related to some aspect of your book. Include a headline.

**Sports**--Describe a conflict in your book as if it was a sports competition. Include box scores, photos, or illustrations to make the "competition" come to life. Be sure to include enough details so that your reader learns about the conflict from your book and understands how the "sporting event" represents this conflict. Include a headline.

## **IMPORTANT REMINDER**

*Like a newspaper, all the space on your front page should be filled with content. You may include any other newspaper-related content in order to fill the page. **Everything** you include must relate in some way to your Independent Reading book or the historical setting in which it takes place; "random stuff" is not acceptable. Be certain to proofread carefully. A project containing more than a few grammatical/spelling errors will be returned for revision.*

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

Finish reading your Independent Reading book by **Tuesday, February 19.**

Idea Sharing about Newspaper Book Report Project on \_\_\_\_\_

Submit Layout Plan for Peer Review on \_\_\_\_\_

Submit Layout Plan for Teacher Review on \_\_\_\_\_

Bring to class all articles, features, and artwork for layout \_\_\_\_\_

Submit Final Copy of Newspaper Book Report Project on \_\_\_\_\_