



## Independent Reading Activity

Now that you've finished your novel, choose **ONE** of these final activities to demonstrate your understanding of the book.

**CHOICE #1:** Prepare a *thoughtful and creative plot line poster* of your novel. This should include (*use this as a checklist!*):

- **all parts of the plot line diagram, labelled and discussed:** exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution
- writing that is **typed** and pasted onto the poster or **neatly printed and fine-lined**
- **colorful illustrations** for select pieces of the timeline (for example, if the setting is the beach, you could illustrate with a palm tree, pail and shovel under exposition/setting; you also want to illustrate key items of the plot)
- **title of book and author's name** across the top, across the bottom, or in one of the corners
- **Your heading** (name, date, period) in the bottom right-hand corner

**CHOICE #2:** Choose **ONE** of the following prompts to answer in an essay.

- Describe a goal of the main character in your book. Provide examples from the text of how the character is successful or unsuccessful in reaching this goal.
- Describe the characterization of the main character. Include specific examples of each characterization technique the author uses (physical description, dialogue, actions, thoughts/feelings). Then, explain why you like or dislike the character (use specifics!).
- Could this book happen anywhere, or does the story depend on the setting? If it depends on the setting, cite quotes that describe the setting. Then, explain why the story depends on the setting. If the book could take place anywhere, suggest another setting for it. Explain why you chose this place and how the story would differ in this new setting.
- What is a theme or message of the novel? Cite scenes or situations that convey the theme. Then, explain why this theme is important, why the author may have written about it, and how it applies to your own life.
- What connections can you make between this novel and your own life? Did you learn anything from reading this novel? About yourself? About life? About human behavior? About a particular topic? Consider characters, conflicts, situations, themes. Use specific examples from the book to explain these connections to your life, and give information from the book that supports your new discoveries.