

## Challenged Book Guide Sheet



Choose a challenged book that has been written for secondary school or post-secondary audiences, read it, and write a persuasive essay (3-7 pages, MLA style), arguing that your chosen book should or should not be banned as required reading in classrooms and/or banned from library shelves. You may limit your thesis so you refer specifically to Southeast of Saline

classrooms/libraries (or any other specific location), or you may speak more generally, suggesting that the book be banned from all libraries and classrooms or not banned from any.

Consider this project to be a persuasive research paper. After reading the book and learning about the situations in which the book has been challenged, establish a thesis and support that thesis by providing reasons that the book should or should not be “banned.” Include the following in your argument:

1. Background about the book’s controversies, challenges and/or banning.
2. A thesis that explains reasons you would or would not recommend banning the book.
3. References to the story’s plot and themes and any other details that will enhance the reader’s understanding of your essay. (Include enough information so that the reader of your essay feels he knows your book even though he may not have read it, but do not write plot summary solely to fill space.)
4. Passages that might invite banning. (Include your observations about the passages.)
5. Why the book should/should not be available in the school library or be required reading, etc.