



# Stories of Strength: A Documentary on Overcoming Challenges

## Video Instructions

### Objective:

Create a mini-documentary or multimedia presentation about a real-world issue related to resilience, perseverance, and overcoming adversity. You'll research the issue, highlight a real person or group who has faced this challenge, and connect it to a novel from our unit.

Estimated time to complete: 5-6 Hours.

At UOS it is required to do one speaking assessment per quarter. This project fulfills that requirement. You must appear on camera.

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### Step 1: Choose Your Topic

Pick an issue that connects to resilience and overcoming challenges. Some ideas:

- ✓ **Mental Health & Well-Being** (e.g., anxiety, depression, PTSD)
- ✓ **Surviving Hardships** (e.g., poverty, homelessness, natural disasters)
- ✓ **Standing Up for Change** (e.g., activists, social justice movements)
- ✓ **Physical Challenges** (e.g., athletes overcoming injuries, people with disabilities achieving great things)

- Bullying & Social Pressures**
- Immigrant & Refugee Experiences**

👉 **TIP:** Choose a topic that interests you personally! If your idea isn't here—reach out and ask!

- Requirement:** Write **3-5 sentences** in the textbox below explaining why you chose this topic.

## Step 2: Research Your Issue

Find **reliable sources** (news articles, interviews, documentaries, TED Talks, podcasts, books). Make sure to include your sources when you write below. Your research should include:

- Background on the issue** - What is it? Why does it matter?

- Statistics or facts** - How common is this challenge? Who is affected? (**At least 2 statistics**)

- A real-life example** - A person or group who faced and overcame this challenge

-  **Requirement:** Use at least **2-3 sources** and include them in a simple citation list.

Place sources here:

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### Step 3: Make a Literary Connection

Pick a character from any of the texts you read in this unit who also faces challenges. Answer:

- What struggle does this character face? (2-3 sentences)

- How do they overcome it (or attempt to)? (2-3 sentences)

- What similarities exist between this character and the real-life story you researched? (4-5 sentences)

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### Step 4: Plan Your Documentary or Presentation

Now combine all this information into a short video documentary:

 **Short Video Documentary** - 3-5 minutes long, using, interviews, or video clips.

Great sites to use would be Canva, Screencastify, Google Slides, etc.

 **You must appear on camera for this documentary.** If you are uncomfortable being recorded, email me and we can meet over Zoom.

 **Your presentation should include:**

- Introduction:** What is your topic, and why does it matter? (30-second intro)

- Research & Real-World Story:** Facts, statistics, and a real-life example add images (1-2 minutes of video/audio)
- Literary Connection:** How does this relate to the novel you read? (1-minute discussion)
- Personal Reflection:** What did you learn? How does this inspire you? (30-45 seconds)

Write your reflection that you'll say here:

### Step 5: Create & Submit!

- Upload the link to your completed Digital Documentary in the textbox below. Make sure to give me [access](#) to it.

### Step 6: Self-Graded Rubric

Grade your assignment based on this rubric below:

Category	Excellent (20 pts)	Proficient (15-19 pts)	Developing (10-14 pts)	Needs Improvement (0-9 pts)
Research & Explanation of Issue (20 pts)	I can provide a <b>clear, well-researched</b> explanation of my issue. I include background, <b>2+ statistics</b> , and a <b>well-explained real-life example</b> .	I can explain my issue with some research, but I may be <b>missing details</b> like a strong real-life example or a second statistic.	I can provide a <b>basic explanation</b> , but some parts are <b>unclear, too short, or missing key details</b> (like statistics or a real-life example).	I need to add more research because my explanation is <b>missing or very unclear</b> .

<p>Real-World Story Connection (20 pts)</p>	<p>I can highlight a <b>compelling real-world example</b> of resilience. I provide <b>strong supporting details</b> and explain <b>how the person/group overcame adversity</b>.</p>	<p>I can include a real-world example, but it <b>needs more detail</b> or stronger connections.</p>	<p>I can attempt to connect my research to a real story, but it is <b>not well explained or lacks depth</b>.</p>	<p>I <b>need to</b> find a clear real-world example or explain it better.</p>
<p>Literary Connection (20 pts)</p>	<p>I can <b>thoughtfully compare</b> a novel character's struggles to the real-world issue. I write <b>at least 8-10 well-written sentences</b> making <b>clear, specific connections</b>.</p>	<p>I can make a connection to a novel character, but some points <b>are unclear or not fully developed</b>.</p>	<p>I can attempt to connect a novel character, but my response is <b>too short (under 8 sentences)</b> or lacks specific details.</p>	<p>I <b>need to</b> add a clear connection to my novel because it is <b>missing or unclear</b>.</p>
<p>Creativity &amp; Presentation Quality (20 pts)</p>	<p>I can create a <b>well-organized, creative, and engaging</b> presentation. I follow <b>all format guidelines</b> (3-5 min video/audio). I <b>use strong visuals and structure my project well</b>.</p>	<p>I can follow most format guidelines, but my project <b>could be more visually engaging or structured better</b>.</p>	<p>I can create a project, but it is <b>too short or lacks creativity and strong visuals</b>.</p>	<p>I <b>need to</b> make my project <b>longer, more engaging, and better organized</b>.</p>

<b>Personal Reflection &amp; Insight (20 pts)</b>	<b>I can</b> reflect <b>deeply and thoughtfully</b> on my project. I explain <b>why I chose my topic</b> (3-5 sentences) and share <b>what I learned</b> in a meaningful way (5-7 sentences).	<b>I can</b> reflect on my project, but my explanation of <b>why I chose the topic and what I learned</b> needs more depth or detail.	<b>I can</b> attempt to reflect, but my response is <b>brief and lacks insight</b> .	<b>I need to</b> add more reflection because it is <b>too short or missing</b> .
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## Submit

- Make sure this document and all other links are housed inside your UOS YA Lit Folder in your [google drive](#). **REMEMBER IF I DON'T HAVE ACCESS YOU WILL RECEIVE A 1% AND LOSE AN ATTEMPT.**
- Copy and paste the share link to this document into the Edgenuity textbox.



- Along with the link, make sure to have the following phrase in the Edgenuity textbox: **"Adversity reveals strength, shaping identity through challenge, change, and choice."**

**If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at [kchastain@utahonline.org](mailto:kchastain@utahonline.org) or (435) 817-9883**



Reminder that use of AI for any reason is **strictly prohibited** in this course, including but not limited to: Grammarly's A.I. function, ChatGPT, etc.

