

PREVIEW NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE

Literary Legends Author Study Project Rubric

	20	15	10	5
Research	The group conducts thorough research on the author. The group demonstrates a deep understanding of the historical context and events related to the person's life. The project depicts important events of the author's life accurately and specifically. The group includes meaningful information.	The group conducts research on the author. The group demonstrates a basic understanding of the historical context and events related to the person's life. The project depicts some important events of the author's life accurately and specifically. The group includes mostly meaningful information.	The group conducts some research on the author. The group demonstrates an elementary understanding of the historical context and events related to the person's life. The project depicts events of the author's life that are moderately unclear or inaccurate. The group includes a fair amount of meaningful information.	The group conducts little research on the author. The group does not demonstrate an understanding of the historical context and events related to the person's life. The project depicts unimportant events of the author's life that are inaccurate and ambiguous. The group mainly includes nonessential information.
Overall Appearance	The overall appearance is exceptionally creative and aesthetically pleasing. The graphic elements are skillfully and neatly colored. The written text is distinct and easy to read.	The overall appearance is creative and aesthetically pleasing. The graphic elements are neatly colored for the most part. The written text is easy to see and read.	The overall appearance is somewhat creative and acceptably attractive. The graphic elements are colored completely, though slightly messy. The written text is visible and decently readable.	The overall appearance is messy and not attractive to look at. The graphic elements are not colored completely. The written text is difficult to see and comprehend.
Participation	All students in the group are on task, and everyone completes his/her individual role. All group members contribute to the planning, research, and execution of the project. Group members follow directions and complete the project on time.	Mostly all students in the group are on task, and majority of the members complete his/her individual role. Most of the group members contribute to the planning, research, and execution of the project. Most of the group members follow directions and complete the project on time.	Some of the students in the group are on task, and some group members complete his/her individual role. Some of the group members contribute to the planning, research, and execution of the project. Some of the group members follow directions and complete the project on time.	The students in the group are seldom on task, and less than half of the group members complete his/her individual role. The group members scarcely spend time planning and researching for the project. Hardly any of the group members follow directions nor complete the project on time.
Cooperation	The group works together to create a well-executed project. Students respect one another and encourage the ideas and efforts of others in a cooperative manner. The group demonstrates a positive attitude towards the project.	The group works together to create a completed project. Students mostly respect one another and maybe encourage the ideas and efforts of others. The group demonstrates a positive attitude towards the project.	The group sometimes works together, but mostly works independently to create a completed project. Students sometimes respect one another and tolerate the ideas and efforts of others. The group demonstrates a somewhat positive attitude towards the project.	The group does not work together in order to complete the project. Students show minimal respect for one another and struggle to tolerate the ideas and efforts of others in a decent manner. The group demonstrates a negative attitude towards the project.
Attention to Detail	Writing contains 0-1 errors in grammar, punctuation, or spelling. The group thoroughly and effectively completes all the project requirements.	Writing contains maybe 2-3 errors in grammar, punctuation, or spelling, but it does not distract the reader from the overall content. The group completes all of the project requirements.	Writing contains 3-4 errors in grammar, punctuation, or spelling that somewhat distract the reader from the content. The group completes most of the project requirements.	Writing contains more than 4 errors in grammar, punctuation, or spelling that distract the reader from the content. The group completes some of the project requirements,

Group Members:

Additional Comments:

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Collaborative Author Study Project

Objective: Research a specific author in order to learn about his/her career, life, and notable achievements. Create an attractive poster that includes a colored illustration of the author and presents the most crucial information from your research.

- 1. The poster is comprised of 6 separate pieces of paper. Evenly distribute the pieces of the poster amongst the members in your group.
 - 2. Look for reputable sources of information and websites from credible organizations. Research the author, specifically using the categories you are assigned. Take notes on your findings, but don't write directly on your poster just yet. Write down your notes on the brainstorming worksheet.
- 3. Examine and analyze the information you've gathered. Compare notes with your group members and remove any repeated or redundant information. Choose essential information that you will use to fill in the appropriate boxes on your pieces of paper. Proofread, revise, and edit the information you've found. Make sure the information you gathered is written in your own words.
 - 4. Neatly copy your final drafts of information onto your poster. Use dark pen or marker. (You can use pencil to begin with and then trace over the pencil with a darker pen).
- 5. Collaborate with your group to choose a color scheme for your poster. Each group member should color an equal number of pages. You can use crayons, colored pencils, markers, glitter, and other crafting materials. The poster must be entirely colored.
 - 6. Complete the project! Carefully cut along the dotted lines to retrieve the final 6 pieces of poster paper. Tape the 6 pieces of paper in their proper places, so that the illustration lines up correctly.

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Author Study Project Brainstorming Worksheet

First, research your author and write your findings here. Next, transfer your answers to the boxes on your poster. Each box on your poster should include 1-3 sentences.

NATIONALITY:

Where was the author born? What country is the author from? Where are the author's parents from?

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PRAISED FOR:

Why is this author famous? What do people admire and celebrate about this author? List notable works.

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What is the author judged for negatively? What is something the author has said or done that is not approved by others? Why do some people dislike this author?

MAJOR OBSTACLE:

What mental, physical, or emotional obstacles has the author had to overcome? What challenges or barriers, such as financial difficulties or health problems, did the author face?

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TWO MAJOR LIFE EVENTS:

Briefly explain two major events that occurred in the author's life. A major life event is a significant occurrence that has a lasting impact on an individual's life. These events can be positive or negative.

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BIRTH DATE: FOR EDUCATIONAL US

When was the author born? Be as specific as possible.

QUOTE:

Choose a quote by the author. Include the context of the quote. When was it said? Is it a line from a novel? A poem? An interview? Explain the meaning of the quote.

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EDUCATION AND CAREER:

Where and when did the author attend school? What career choices led this person to become a successfu author? When did this person become an author? When did the author achieve fame?

PASSION/TALENT:

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What skills or talents does the author possess? What beliefs, ideals, or goals does the author have strong feelings about? What activities is the author enthusiastic about (what brings him/her joy)?

PERSONAL LIFE:

What are at least two facts about the author's personal life? For example: Is the author married? Does the author have children? Does the author have siblings? Who is the author's closest ally or friend?

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THREE ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HIM/HER:

List three personality traits that describe the author.

PREVIEW

DEATH DATE OR AGE IF STILL LIVING:

When did the author pass away? If the author is still living, what is his/her age?

Jane Austen Author Study Project

First, research your author and write your findings here. Next, transfer your answers to the boxes on your poster. Each box on your poster should include 1-3 sentences.

NATIONALITY:

Where was the author born? What country is the author from? Where are the author's parents from?

Jane Austen was an English author from Steventon, United Kingdom.

PRAISED FOR:

Why is this author famous? What do people admire and celebrate about this author? List notable works

Jane Austen was a skilled storyteller who depicted English middle-class life during the early 19th century. Austen's novels often revolve around love, courtship, and marriage. She explores the complexities of relationships, societal pressures, and the pursuit of happiness. She published four novels during her lifetime: Sense and Sensibility, Pride and Prejudice, Mansfield Park, and Emma, and two novels posthumously: Persuasion and Northanger Abbey. Her works have remained popular for over two centuries.

CRITICIZED FOR:

What is the author judged for negatively? What is something the author has said or done that is not approved by others? Why do some people dislike this author?

Some people criticize Austen's work for the lack of diversity. There is a lack of representation in characters such as the poor working class or BIPOC. Her stories predominantly feature white, heterosexual characters which were quintessential characters for the time period in which she was a writer.

MAJOR OBSTACLE:

What mental, physical, or emotional obstacles has the author had to overcome? What challenges or barriers, such as financial difficulties or health problems, did the author face?

In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, women had restricted access to education, limited career options, and were largely expected to prioritize marriage and family life. Austen and her sister, Cassandra, had to live with various family members and relied on the goodwill of their brothers. Women writers during that era often faced challenges in getting their work published and gaining recognition. While she was alive, Austen's authorship was not widely known during her lifetime. Her novels were published anonymously. It was only after her death that her brother Henry Austen revealed her name as the author of her novels.

TWO MAJOR LIFE EVENTS:

Briefly explain two major events that occurred in the author's life. A major life event is a significant occurrence that has a lasting impact on an individual's life. These events can be positive or negative.

- 1. In 1801, Jane Austen was forced to move from the rural countryside to Bath. She was completely dependent on her father's income and had no choice in the matter, but the move caused her great distress. City life was expensive and much different than what she was accustomed to. Her experiences in Bath contributed to her writing of characters who live with financial instability. Austen moved out of Bath shortly after her father's death.
- 2. Apparently, in 1802, Jane agreed to marry a wealthy man named Harris Bigg-Wither, but the next morning changed her mind. This was a significant decision for Jane because she rejected a rich man who could have taken care of her financially, exposing Jane's desire for personal autonomy, refusal of the social norms, and personal belief in genuine love and personal connections. She never married, which was bold and unconventional.

BIRTH DATE:

When was the author born? Be as specific as possible.

Jane Austen was born December 16, 1775.

QUOTE:

Choose a quote by the author. Include the context of the quote. When was it said? Is it a line from a novel?

A poem? An interview? Explain the meaning of the quote.

"There is nothing I would not do for those who are really my friends. I have no notion of loving people by halves, it is not my nature." The character Isabella says this line to her rival Catherine in the novel Northanger Abbey.

EDUCATION AND CAREER:

Where and when did the author attend school? What career choices led this person to become a successful author? When did this person become an author? When did the author achieve fame?

Jane wasn't educated in a traditional sense because education for women was limited during her lifetime, but she was encouraged to read and learn at home. Jane's father was a Reverend and had access to many books that he was able to lend to his children. She did attend a couple of schools briefly, but most of her education was completed at home. Austen's writing career was not without its challenges. Encouraged by the positive feedback she received from family and friends, Austen worked independently to refine her writing skills and develop her distinctive style. She faced difficulties in finding publishers who were willing to take a chance on her works because she was a woman. Jane Austen's first novel and "big break" was Sense and Sensibility, which was published anonymously in 1811. The novel received positive feedback and critical acclaim. She had many fans (despite being anonymous) to include the Prince Regent.

PASSION/TALENT:

What skills or talents does the author possess? What beliefs, ideals, or goals does the author have strong feelings about? What activities is the author enthusiastic about (what brings him/her joy)?

Jane had a keen interest in storytelling and creative expression. She started crafting her own stories and plays as a teenager, often entertaining her family and close friends with her imaginative tales. Jane also enjoyed playing the piano and needlework—a common hobby for women of Austen's time.

PERSONAL LIFE:

What are at least two facts about the author's personal life? For example: Is the author married? Does the author have children? Does the author have siblings? Who is the author's closest ally or friend?

Jane Austen was the second daughter and seventh child in a family of eight. Her closest companion throughout her life was her sister, Cassandra. Jane never married nor did she ever have children. She dedicated her life to writing.

THREE ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HIM/HER:

List three personality traits that describe the author.

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DEATH DATE OR AGE IF STILL LIVING:

When did the author pass away? If the author is still living, what is his/her age?

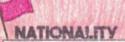
Austen died on July 18, 1817 of an unknown illness. She was 41 years old.

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2 MAJOR LIFE EVENTS



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PERSONAL LIFE

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3 ADJECTIVES

Witty

Intelligent

Virtuous



Austen died on July 18, 1817 of an unknown illness. She was 41 years old.