



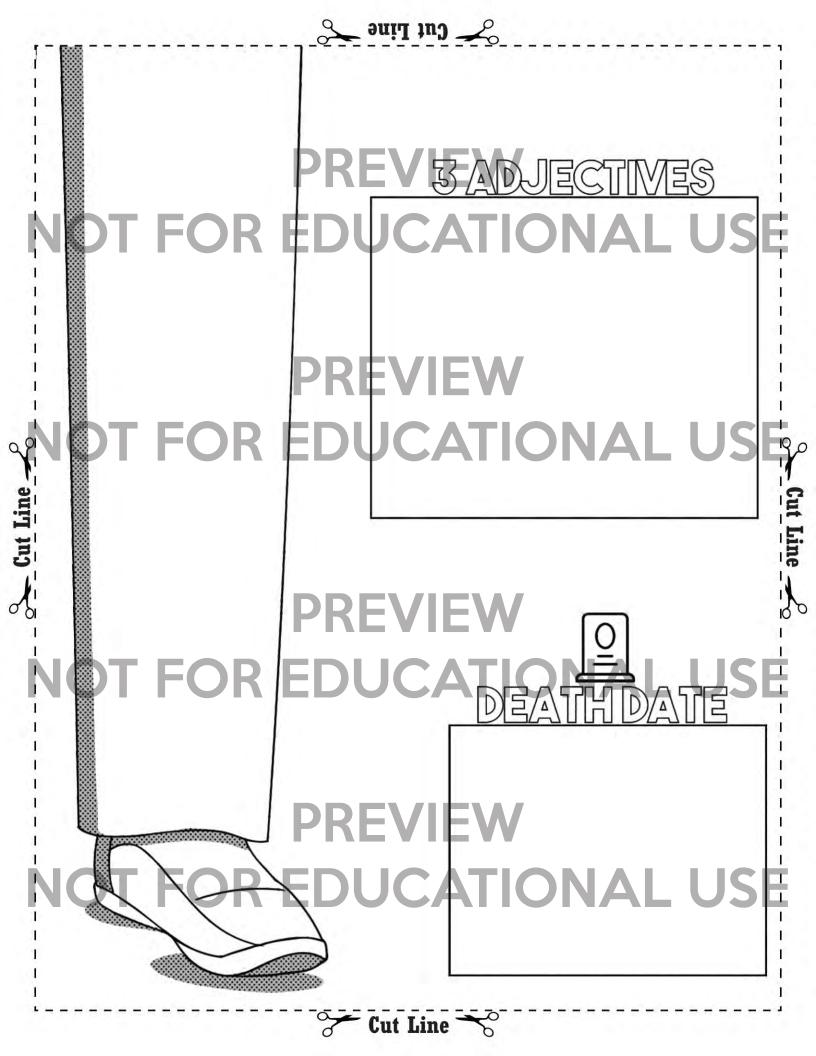
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Literary Legends Author Study Project Rubric

	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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CRITICIZED FOR: EDUCATIONALUS

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.

PREVIEW

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.

PREVIEW

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:

PREVIEW

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?

PREVIEW

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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?

Nathaniel Hawthorne 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?

Nathaniel Hawthorne was an American writer, who was born in Salem, Massachusetts.

PRAISED FOR:

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

Nathaniel Hawthorne was a writer praised for his symbolic, influential works of fiction. His most famous novels and short stories include: "The Scarlet Letter," "The House of the Seven Gables," "The Blithedale Romance," "Young Goodman Brown," "The Birthmark," "The House of the Seven Gables," and "The Minister's Black Veil."

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 critics disliked Hawthorn's work because of its grim, gloomy, and hopeless elements. Hawthorne often explored dark themes in his writing, such as sins, guilt, and the uglier aspects of human nature.

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?

Hawthorne's father passed away in 1808 when Nathaniel was only four years old. This event deeply impacted him and his family who became financially unstable as a result. His mother constantly relied on relatives to help support them. His father's passing impacted Nathaniel's personality too, as he grew more and more introverted and was known to prefer solitude.

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. Nathaniel's ancestor, John, was a judge at the seventeenth-century Salem With Trials, where dozens of people were wrongfully executed and accused of being witches. The legacy of the Salem Witch Trials left all those who were associated with the tragedy with profound guilt and shame—this would later influence Nathaniel and his writing.
- 2. Hawthorne wrote "The Life of Franklin Pierce," the campaign biography of his friend Franklin Pierce, and as a reward for Pierce winning the presidency, Nathaniel became the United States consul in Liverpool. His family relocated to England during this time. Before returning to America, Nathaniel and his family embarked on a European tour in France and Italy for three years. These experiences exposed him to different cultures, inspiring some of his later works.

BIRTH DATE

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

Nathaniel was born on July 4, 1804 into the sixth generation of his Salem family.

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.

"Words—so innocent and powerless as they are, as standing in a dictionary, how potent for good and evil they become in the hands of one who knows how to combine them." This quote indicates that words have an unyielding power and influence. He cautions that language should be treated with care.

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?

Hawthorne attended Bowdoin College from 1821 to 1825. Among his classmates were Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and U.S. President Franklin Pierce. Most of Hawthorne's early stories were published anonymously. Hawthorne published his first collection of short stories under his own name, titled "Twice-Told Tales" in 1837. Hawthorne's big break as a writer came with the publication of his novel "The Scarlet Letter" in 1850. The novel's success earned Hawthorne widespread recognition as a significant American writer. Nathaniel Hawthorne worked at the U.S. Custom House in Salem for three years to make extra money to support his family.

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)?

Nathaniel was a devoted husband and father and was very loyal to his family. He also had an interest in history, especially his own family's history and involvement in the Salem Witch trials and their Puritan roots.

PERSONAL LIFE:

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

Hawthorne married Sophia Peabody on July 9, 1842. They had known each other since 1839 and became engaged in 1841. The couple had three children together: Ana, Julian, and Rose. Their marriage lasted until Nathaniel's death.

THREE ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HIM/HER:

List three personality traits that describe the author.

COMPLEX, PASSIONATE, ETHICAL

DEATH DATE OR AGE IF STILL LIVING:

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

Hawthorne died on May 19, 1864 at age 59. He was buried in Sleepy Hollow Cemetery in Concord, Massachusetts.

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NATHAMIEL HAWTHORNE



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3 ADJECTIVES

COMPLEX
PASSIONATE
ETHICAL



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