











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.



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?

Jack London Answer Key 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?

Jack London was an American writer. He was born in San Francisco, California.

PRAISED FOR:

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

London is best known for his adventure novels and short stories which often depicted the struggles of man against nature. London's work is praised for being both thrilling and timeless. His most popular works include: *The Call of the Wild* (1903), *White Fang* (1906), *Burning Daylight* (1910), *The Sea Wolf* (1904), and the short story "To Build a Fire" (1908).

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?

ondon's political beliefs drew both praise and criticism. London believed in labor unions, socialism, and the rights of workers. He joined an Oakland branch of the Socialist Labor Party in April 1896.

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?

London's father left when he was a baby, so he never knew his father, William Henry Chaney. On September 7, 1876, his mother married John London, and Jack took his name in lieu of his father's absence. The family lived in poverty and Jack would work many odd jobs to help contribute to his parents.

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. At age 17 Jack took a job as a crewman aboard the ship *Sophie Sutherland*. He voyaged to Japan and the Bering Sea where he worked tirelessly on the ship to prove himself. After the rough journey, he became more interested in advocating for equality of of the underprivileged and working classes.
- 2. In 1897, he joined the Klondike Gold Rush, spending months in the harsh Alaskan wilderness in search for gold. He was only 21 years old. He did not have any luck finding gold and faced many physical difficulties due to the harsh conditions. Despite not finding any gold, his firsthand experiences in the Klondike heavily influenced his writing.

BIRTH DATE:

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

Jack London was born "John Griffith Chaney" on January 12, 1876.

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.

Jack London said in his essay "The People of the Abyss," published in 1903, "The proper function of man is to live, not to exist. I shall not waste my days in trying to prolong them. I shall use my time." This quote sums up Jack's philosophy about life which is that everyone should be experiencing the world and seeking purpose day to day because time on earth is limited.

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?

Jack briefly attended the University of California at Berkeley but dropped out due to financial reasons. Jack continued to educate himself by reading and studying. Jack London's first published story was called "To the Man on the Trail." He was paid only five dollars for this piece. London truly became famous and solidified his literary career with the novel *The Call of the Wild* which was published in 1903. He completed more than 50 fiction and non-fiction books, hundreds of short stories, and numerous articles.

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)?

Jack London firmly believed that people should live life to the fullest. He worked many odd jobs and was even arrested once for vagrancy. His personal hobbies included reading, sailing, and traveling. London travelled to five continents, crossed the Pacific Ocean twice and the Atlantic once.

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?

London married Bess Maddern on April 7, 1900. The couple had two daughters Joan and Bess. Four years later, London and Bess divorced. London's second marriage was to Charmian Kittredge. They had one daughter together who passed away during infancy.

THREE ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HIM/HER:

List three personality traits that describe the author.

Ambitious, adventurous, inquisitive

DEATH DATE OR AGE IF STILL LIVING:

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

Jack London died on November 22, 1916 from uraemia (kidney failure) following renal colic. London had been suffering from various health issues leading up to his death.

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Jack London was an American writer. He was born in San Francisco, California.

LONDON



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proper function of man is to live, not to exist, I shall not waste my days in thing to prolong them I shall use my time." This gubte suns up tacks like philosophy about life which is tratever, ore should seek, purpose in life.



PRAISED FOR

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Landon attended the University of California at Berkeley for a Strott time, but dropped out due to Anancia reasons. He continued to settled ducine, himself by reading and reddying in his specific first his fifth published throw was to the Man on the Troit for which he was any paid five downs; he through said diffed in hierang, career with he more the Cause the while he was a family a with the man of the world of the while he was a family a custom. After his career took of, he completed more than 30 frigue, and notificial more than 30 frigue.



London's political beliefs drew both praise and criticism the believed in ighor unions, Socialism, and frught for the rights of workers, the joined the Datiana branch of the Socialist Laber Party in 1840. Despite his social justice advoracy, many feth his literany works Contractitled his beliefs.

PASSION / TALENT

Jack London firmly believed that life should be lived to the fullest. He worked many different jobs and enjoyed learning the ropes of different trades. He was once arrested for vagrancy-tis personal hobbist included reading, Sailing, and travelta. He traveled many plates including 5 different comments and the Pacific and Atlantic oceans.



MAJOR OBSTACLE

Jack London's father left the family and never had a positive relationing moving triward with is 50th this father name was withiam Henry Chaney when Jack was a baby. Wit maker remarked John London and so Jack his name from there John was a disabled veletan from the civil warand the family lived in poverty. Jack worked many and jobs starting at a young abe to help support his farents.



Talk London married Bess Maddern on April 1, 1900. They had two daughters together, Joan and Bess. Four years later, they divorced. Jalk remarried (harmiankittredge in November 1905. They had one Child together who died regizally as an infant.



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2. In 1977 Jack joined the Klondike Cipila Rush and spent months in the harsh risks an wilderness life was Il years old and had no luck thating any youd. The captional pin involved harsh illying conditions and progress challenges soft the control of the contro

3 ADJECTIVES

ADVENTUROUS AMBITIOUS INQUISITIVE



BIRTH DATE

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