





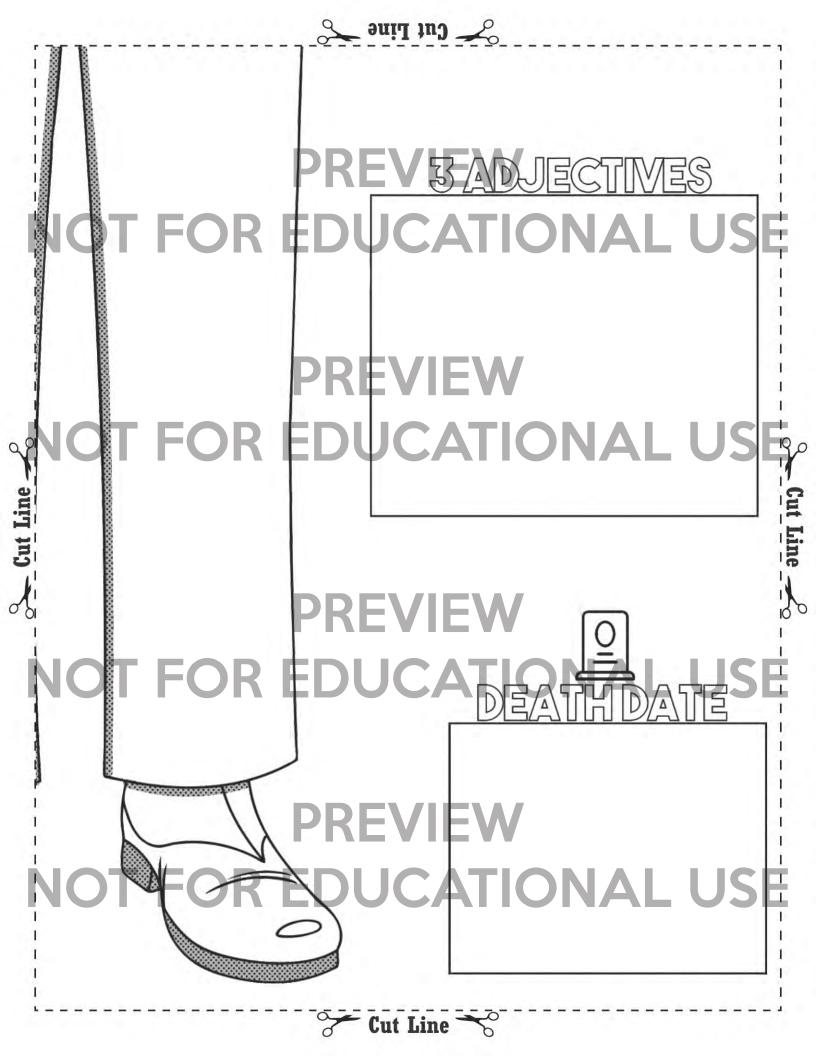
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Literary Legends Author Study Project Rubric

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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.

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?

Rod Serling 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?

Rodman Edward Serling was American; he was of Jewish heritage. He was born in Syracuse, New York.

PRAISED FOR:

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

Rod Serling was a famous screenwriter, playwright, television producer, and host. He created and hosted the popular sci-fi fantasy series "The Twilight Zone" and co-wrote the film "Planet of the Apes." His other notable works include: Requiem for a Heavyweight, Patterns, Seven Days in May, The Rack. Night Gallery, and A Stop at Willoughby. Rod is praised for his ability to use science fiction and fantasy to address realworld social issues and explore human behavior. His work was revolutionary for its time, presenting thought-provoking stories with unexpected twists and exploring various social, political, and moral issues. Serling's work have had a profound cultural impact. Many modern TV shows and movies still pay homage to the themes and style popularized by Serling.

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?

Serling was criticized for his controversial writing. He often found himself disagreeing with the CBS network because they insisted on censoring his scripts. After his work was repeatedly edited against his wishes, he changed genres and began writing sci-fi.

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?

When Rod's father passed away, it was a huge emotional obstacle for him. Rod Serling had a close relationship with his father and often credited him with inspiring his love for storytelling. His father even built a small stage in the basement where Rod and friends would put on plays and musicals. His father ran a local grocery store and butcher shop that taught Rod about the value of work. Shortly after Serling returned from the war, his father died suddenly of a heart attack.

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.

Serling enlisted in the U.S. Army during World War II, with the aim of fighting the Nazis in Europe. Born into a Jewish family, he was particularly determined to stop the Nazis. During his time in the Army, he worked as a paratrooper with the 511th Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 11th Airborne Division. During the Battle of Leyte in the Philippines, Serling sustained injuries for which he became a Purple Heart recipient.

In 1955, Rod Serling won his first Emmy, for writing the TV business drama Patterns. In his lifetime, he won six Emmys.

BIRTH DATE:

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

Serling was born on December 25, 1924.

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 a fifth dimension, beyond that which is known to man. It is a dimension as vast as space and as

timeless as infinity. It is the middle ground between light and shadow, between science and superstition, and it lies between the pit of man's fears and the summit of his knowledge. This is the dimension of imagination. It is an area which we call The Twilight Zone." This is the introduction to the infamous show, "The Twiliaht Zone."

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?

After high school and serving in World War II, Serling enrolled at Antioch College. He majored in English literature and drama. Serling had his first big break with a television drama for NBC, called Patterns. His success only continued from there. In 1959, "The Twilight Zone" premiered on CBS and became a cultural phenomenon. After "The Twilight Zone" ended, taught dramatic writing at Ithaca College in New York.

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)?

Serling was passionate about social topics and often used his platform to address issues like civil rights, war, prejudice, and the dangers of totalitarianism. Serling also enjoyed playing chess, reading, space, astronomy, boxing, and family.

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?

Rod married Carolyn Louise "Carol" Kramer in 1948. They stayed married until Rod's death, Together, Rod and Carol Serling had two daughters: Anne and Jodi. He is remembered as a devoted husband and father.

THREE ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HIM/HER:

List three personality traits that describe the author.

Innovative, Brave, Visionary

DEATH DATE OR AGE IF STILL LIVING:

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

Rod Serling died in Rochester, New York, on June 28, 1975. He died of a heart attack at 50 years old. He was posthumously inducted into the Television Academy Hall of Fame.

