

Cut Line



NATIONALITY

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PREVIEW

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WH17

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PRAISED FOR

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LT
MAN

PREVIEW

QUOTE



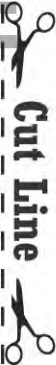
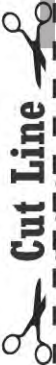
PREVIEW



EDUCATION
& CAREER

PREVIEW

PREVIEW



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CRITICIZED FOR

PREVIEW

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PREVIEW



MAJOR OBSTACLE

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PASSION / TALENT

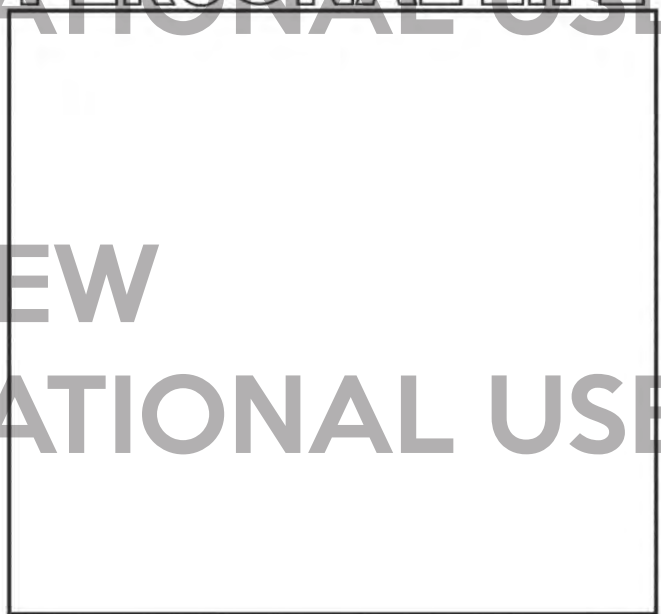


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PERSONAL LIFE



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PREVIEW

2 MAJOR LIFE EVENTS

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PREVIEW

NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE



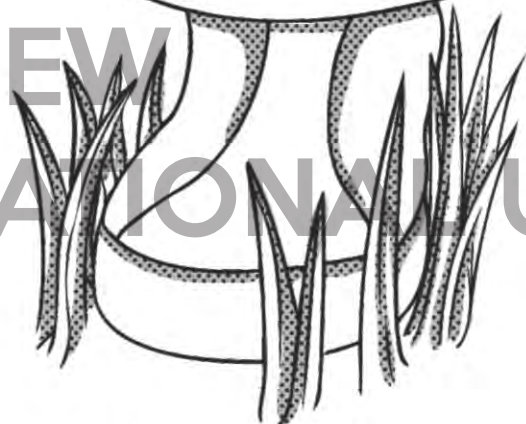
PREVIEW

BIRTH DATE

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PREVIEW

NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE



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PREVIEW
3 ADJECTIVES

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DEATH DATE

PREVIEW

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PREVIEW

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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:

PREVIEW

NOT FOR EDUCATIONAL USE

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?

PRAISED FOR:

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

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?

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?

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.

BIRTH DATE:

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 successful author? When did this person become an author? When did the author achieve fame?

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)?

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?

THREE ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HIM/HER:

List three personality traits that describe the author.

DEATH DATE OR AGE IF STILL LIVING:

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

Author Study Project
Walt Whitman Answer Key

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?

Walt Whitman is American. He was born in Long Island, New York.
His mother was Dutch, and his father was of English descent.

PRAISED FOR:

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

Walt Whitman is considered one of America's most important poets.
In 1855, Whitman took out a copyright on the first edition of *Leaves of Grass*.
He printed the first edition at his own expense.

Famous poems include: "I Sing the Body Electric" and "Song of Myself."
During Whitman's lifetime, *Leaves of Grass* went through nine editions. People love his poetry because he celebrates life and encourages his readers to do the same.

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?

Whitman supported the abolition of slavery and his embrace of democracy and individualism were criticized during the time he was alive. Today, some criticize him for not being extreme enough and for sympathizing with both sides during the civil war.

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?

The Civil War broke out in 1861, and though Whitman was too old to be drafted, he knew many friends and family members who were in the war. Whitman's brother was wounded at Fredericksburg, and Whitman went there in 1862. He spent his spare time visiting other wounded and dying soldiers in the hospitals, buying small gifts of appreciation for both Confederate and Union soldiers. He would talk to them and offer moral support and cheerfulness.

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. Whitman founded a "free soil" newspaper, the *Brooklyn Freeman*, in 1848 which he edited through the next fall. This newspaper was meant to advocate for the abolition of slavery as well as criticize pro-slavery politicians.
2. In 1873, Whitman suffered a stroke that left him partially paralyzed.

BIRTH DATE:

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

Walt Whitman was born on May 31, 1819.

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.

"The powerful play goes on, and you may contribute a verse."
This line is from the poem: "O Me! O Life!" This quote speaks to Whitman's belief in the importance of individual action and the power of each person to contribute to the world around them.

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?

Whitman never attended high school or college because he began working at the age of 12, and learned the printing trade. He was employed as a printer in Brooklyn and New York City.

In 1836, at the age of seventeen, he began his career as teacher in the one-room schoolhouses of Long Island. He continued to teach until 1841, when he turned to journalism as a full-time career. He also edited a number of Brooklyn and New York papers, including the Brooklyn Daily Eagle. He gained recognition as a writer in the 1860s.

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)?

Whitman enjoyed literature, especially the works of Homer, Dante, Shakespeare, and the Bible. He also enjoyed walking in New York City and Long Island. He had visited the theatre frequently and seen many plays of William Shakespeare, and he had developed a strong love of music, especially opera.

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?

Walt Whitman was never married and did not have any children. He had 8 siblings. His brothers George Washington Whitman and Thomas Jefferson Whitman were particularly close to Walt and remained supportive of him throughout his life. George helped Walt to publish and promote his work. Walt did have nieces and nephews through his siblings that he was also close with.

THREE ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE HIM/HER:

List three personality traits that describe the author.

Empathetic, innovative, uplifting

DEATH DATE OR AGE IF STILL LIVING:

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

Whitman died March 26, 1892 in Camden, New Jersey. He was 72 years old.



NATIONALITY

Walt Whitman is American. He was born in Long Island, New York. His mother was Dutch and his father was of English descent.



PRaised FOR

Whitman is widely considered one of America's most important poets. In 1855, Whitman sold and printed *Leaves of Grass*, his first collection of poems, at his own expense. It was highly praised, particularly by Ralph Waldo Emerson. Whitman spent years perfecting *Leaves of Grass*; it went through nine editions. Some beloved poems include "Song of Myself" and "I Sing the Body Electric." Whitman celebrates life and encourages readers to do the same.



CRITICIZED FOR

Whitman was criticized during his time for supporting abolitionists before slavery was abolished. Today, he is criticized for not supporting anti-slavery enough. Whitman was sympathetic to both sides during the civil war.



MAJOR OBSTACLE

The civil war broke out in 1861. Whitman was too old to be drafted, but he had friends and family who had to fight. His brother was badly wounded in 1862, so Whitman went and stayed with him in Fredericksburg. Whitman was disgusted by slavery and war; he spent time visiting wounded soldiers (Union and Confederate), buying them gifts and showing support through moral.



2 MAJOR LIFE EVENTS

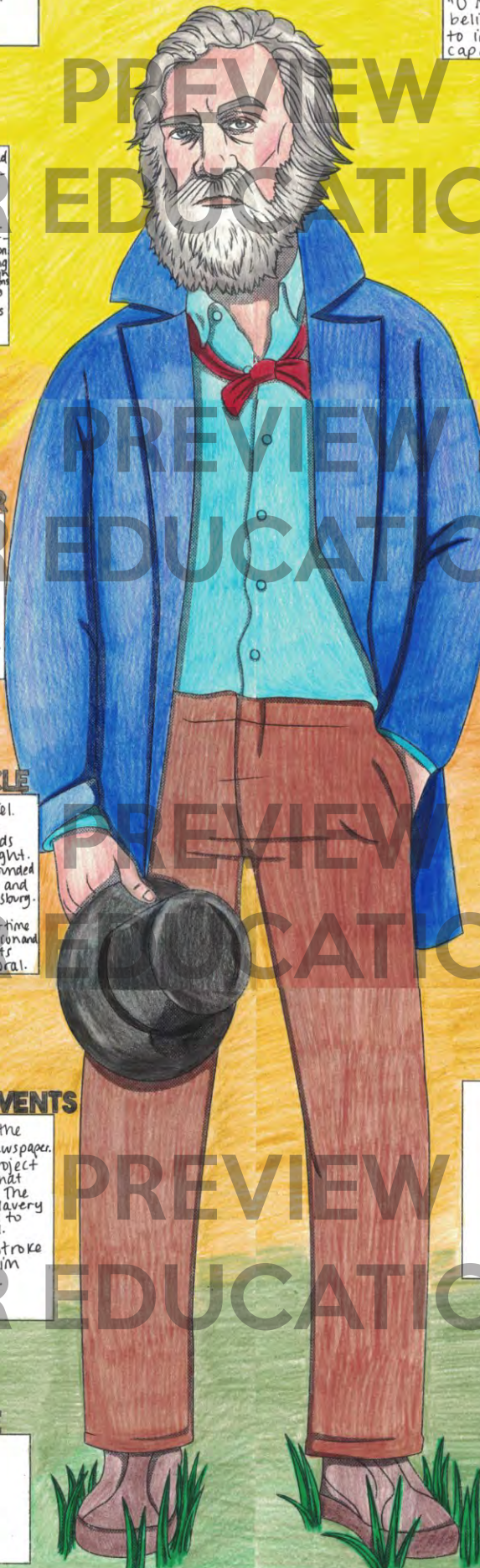
- ① In 1848, he founded the Brooklyn Freeman newspaper. This was a "free soil" project which was the belief that everyone should be free. The content criticized pro-slavery politicians and advocated to abolish slavery for good.
- ② Whitman suffered a stroke in 1873 that left him partially paralyzed.



BIRTHDATE

Walt Whitman was born on May 31, 1819.

WALT WHITMAN



QUOTE

"The powerful play goes on and you may contribute a verse."

This is from the poem "O Me! O Life!" Whitman believed there was importance to individual action and capability.



EDUCATION & CAREER

Whitman didn't attend college or high school. He started working at age 12. He learned the printing trade, then became a teacher in Long Island. In 1841, he became a full-time journalist and editor of a newspaper. He worked independently on his own work and published *Leaves of Grass* in 1855.

It wasn't until the 1860s that Whitman gained recognition and praise for his work as a writer.



PASSION / TALENT

Whitman loved literature and the arts. He was well acquainted with the works of Homer, Dante, Shakespeare and the Bible. He also loved living in New York. He developed an enthusiasm for the opera and frequently attended the theatre to see plays.



PERSONAL LIFE

Whitman never married or had his own children. He had 8 siblings who he was close to. Whitman was a loving uncle to his nephews and nieces. Whitman was very close to his brother George who actually helped Walt publish his work.

3 ADJECTIVES

Empathetic
Innovative
Uplifting



DEATH DATE

Whitman passed away March 26, 1892 in Camden, N.J. He was 72 years old and had fallen ill.