



Civil War “Choose Your Own Adventure” Novel Reading Project

Rationale

As part of our upcoming unit on the Civil War, students will be reading a novel of their own choosing. Having students select their own novel will generate greater class interest in the Civil War, while simultaneously placing students at the helm of their own learning.

Novel Acquisition Options

Students have THREE options when choosing their novel:

1. **Check-out** your novel from **Mr. Cushing’s** in-class Civil War novel library.

advantages: no cost • nothing to order

disadvantages: limited choice of titles • can’t make margin notes

2. **Check-out** your novel from the **WJMS** or **JeffCo** library.

advantages: no cost • nothing to order

disadvantages: can’t make margin notes • requires trip to library

3. **Buy** your novel or ebook. * If financially possible, I highly recommend this option.

advantages: limitless choice of title • ability to make margin notes • no due date

disadvantages: cost • shipping time



Project Timeline

To begin, all students must research, select, locate, and acquire a novel to read. We will start this process by spending some time in class where students can comb through Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and the internet at large, researching potential titles.

By **Friday, November 11th**, students must submit a short online form to Mr. Cushing which outlines their intended book. The form is located on the following file path: **mrcushing.net > Assignment Bank > Novels** .

Students will then have three weeks to order, purchase, or check-out the novel they'll be reading. Students must give their books — or show their e-books — to Mr. Cushing by **Friday, December 2nd**.

Keep in Mind...

- Your novel must be a novel. That means *fiction*. Non-fiction books won't be approved.
- Choose your novel based upon a topic that you like. Don't just pick the shortest, or nearest book that you find.
- You may not choose a book that is longer than 400 pages.
- You must select a book at — or above — your personal lexile reading level. _____

Finding a Book Research Notes

- As you surf the web looking for possible novels to read, use the spaces below to record details about books that make your "short list".

Title: _____ Lexile: _____

Author: _____ Pages: _____

Title: _____ Lexile: _____

Author: _____ Pages: _____

Title: _____ Lexile: _____

Author: _____ Pages: _____