**Short Story Project**

**English 10**

**Due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Objective:** Students will demonstrate a good understanding of the element(s) of a short story by creating an original assignment of their choice.

Choose **one** out of the **ten** activities below, matching it up with the short story with which it will be most successful. All of these require that you combine information provided in the story with your own creative input. Do not change the facts, characters or themes of the stories; however, you may fill in “blank spots’ with added information.

**You are responsible for all materials and you must be prepared to work on it during the designated class time.**

**Evaluation:** **Classroom Engagement/Preparedness 10**

**Depth of Understanding of Element(s) 20**

**Writing/Grammar/Appearance 20**

**Total /50**

1. Write a resume of one of your more well-detailed characters. Imagine that the character is applying for a job (appropriate to his or her role in the story). Include: objective, prior positions and job experience, education/schools and degrees (if any), hobbies and interests. The resume must also include a cover letter detailing the position sought and key skills and/features that qualify the character for this position. Make this document look official!! This assignment should be both typed and eye-catching.

2. Create a comic strip or a story board for one of your stories. Be sure that the captions and illustrations explain the story clearly. Do not include every detail – only those that are most important. You will not be judged on your artistic talent, only on your apparent effort. The pictures may be elaborate or simple (no stick men), but effective.

3. Rewrite one of your short stories as a poem or a song. Be sure to include important details, symbols, incidents, conflicts, etc. Remember, good poetry does not always rhyme!

4. Discuss an important symbol from one of your stories. Explain why you believe the thing (object, color, sign, etc.) is important and what you believe it comes to represent in the story. Provide examples and details. This assignment should be a minimum of 250 words.

5. Write a news article covering the events in one of your stories. Include, besides the 5 W’s, eyewitness accounts (quotes), expert opinions and a “photo” or two. Here you may elaborate or expand on basic facts to create a detailed article.

6. Discuss the author’s use of suspense or irony in one of your short stories. Provide details and reasons to support your observations. This assignment should be a minimum of 250 words.

7. Imagine you were to go through the trash of one of your characters. Explain what you would find there, and why. Base your “finds” on the story from which the character comes. (at least four objects) Begin by telling a bit about the character.

8. Your story has become a motion picture! Create a poster advertising the new motion picture that is coming soon. Following an existing movie poster, design the poster around the main theme of the story, and include pictures, drawings, etc. relevant to the story. Sell your movie.

**The final two choices will only be considered by serious candidates. You must write a proposal explaining your ideas for your project, and only after a teacher conference, will permission be granted for either of these choices:**

9. Create an original short story. It should be 3 – 5 pages in length, and you must include in your draft a plot diagram showing your careful planning and detail to the elements.

10. In a group of no more than three, create an alternate version or parody of one of the short stories. You will need to write a script and perform it for the class on the day the project is due.

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| Stories |
| First Crossing A Cap for Steve  The Swede Mr. Know-All  The Pit and the Pendulum The Cop and the Anthem  The Snob A Rose for Emily |