

Name: _____

Date: _____



Book Talk Assignment

Task	Create a book talk for your classmates. Your goal is to get your peers hooked, or interested in reading the book you recommend in your book talk. You have an awesome responsibility. Ready to motivate others to read?
Book Talk	A book talk is a 1-3 minute talk about a book you want to motivate others to read. It is similar to a movie trailer but for books. The purpose of a book talk is to "sell" the book. You want to give enough information about the text to interest the listeners but you are not giving a summary of the book. You don't want to give away the important parts of the book. You certainly never want to give away the ending. You want to highlight the interesting points. You may want to read certain passages to your listeners. The main purpose of a book talk is to grab the audience's interest and make them want to read the book. It's always a good idea to end the book talk with a cliffhanger. The booktalker presents the book talk orally and usually has the book as a visual prop.
Essential Question	How can I get people in my class hooked a good book?
Product	<p>Your mission is to create an exciting book talk.</p> <p>To begin, you must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First, think about what gets you excited about reading. Is it the characters? Or is it the setting, an exciting plot, interesting themes, or a personal connection you have with the story? Do you like to read about our world through nonfiction? • Second, find a great book to share. • Third, prepare the attached book talk template to help you prepare for the talk. • Fourth, prepare an exciting script for your book talk by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Including an interesting hook. 2. Thoroughly and vividly describing the text by using interesting words. 3. Explain how the text can be connected to the listeners in the class. 4. Retelling an exciting part of the story without giving away too much information to ruin it. 5. Using props where appropriate to build interest. 6. Restating the title and author at the end of your book talk. 7. Leaving your listeners with a compelling reason for checking out the book you recommended. • Fifth, deliver your book talk and use technology to record and share. <p>Remember to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Speak loudly and clearly. 2. Make frequent eye contact with your audience. 3. Speak with enthusiasm. Remember it's your job to hook your reader.
Assessment	You will be graded using the Book Talk Rubric.

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Book Talk Rubric

Grading Criteria	5 Points	3 Points	1 Point
Did I “hook” the audience?	Provided a hook: an amusing fact, a series of questions, a short demonstration, a colorful visual, or a personal connection to the story	Gave a one or two sentence introduction, then starts speech	Did not attempt to gain the audience’s attention – just started speech
Did I tell what happens in the book without saying too much?	Gave overview in several sentences and related an exciting part	Spent too long on summary of book with little mention of a good part of book	Gave summary of book in too much detail
Did I tell something about the main character?	Included memorable facts about the main character	Mention of character was too brief to recall	Did not tell anything about main character
Did I mention the setting?	Told when and where story takes place	Not sure, not clear	Didn’t mention setting
Did I provide the right amount of detail?	Yes, put in enough details to give the listener a sense of time, place, and events	Yes, put in some details, but missed some key details and left audience somewhat confused	No, I didn’t put in enough details, but I did include a few
Did I mention the author and title of book at the end of my book talk?	Yes, and only at the end!	Yes, but I also mentioned it at start of talk	No, I forgot to mention this
Did I have a copy of the book in hand to show the audience?	Yes	Forgot it in my locker	No. Maybe it’s at home
How did I do on my presentation?	Clear, strong, cheerful voice and good eye contact with audience	Little expression in voice and/or little eye contact	Difficult to understand – volume/ pacing; no eye contact
Did I limit my talk to no more than 3 minutes?	Adequate length	A little too long or a little too short	Much too long/too short

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Book Talk Template

Title of Book _____

Author _____

I selected this book

because... _____

I know this about the author...

Introduce the book...

Tell about the book, but don't give away the ending!

Tell about your favorite part of the book or make a connection.

Give a recommendation (e.g. If you like...you will love this book or I recommend this book to anyone who likes...).

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Book Talk Student Checklist

Guiding Questions	Yes?	No?
Am I prepared to explain why this book is at my appropriate level?		
Did I remember to include the title, author and genre?		
Did I include several specific details about the book?		
Did I make a connection to share with my peers?		
Have I prepared a hook to begin the talk?		
Am I ready to retell an exciting part of the text?		
Am I prepared to restate the title, author and genre in my conclusion?		
Am I prepared to share a strong reason for the audience to read the book?		
Have I practiced at least 3 times (at least once in front of someone else)?		

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