

Advanced Biology Summer Assignment
Mrs. Newell
Granville High School
jnewell@granvilleschools.org

Description: Write a paper analyzing how science is incorporated into movies and/or books using the format below. You may choose from one of the suggested options, but feel free to email me if you have another idea! Do ONE book *or* ONE movie. This assignment is due on the first day of school and will count as a project grade (50 pts) for first quarter!

Format:

- 1) **Heading** (author, title)
- 2) **10 pts) Brief description of plot** including essential characters and a summary of main information presented. Aim for 1-2 paragraphs.
- 3) **(15 pts) Describe three** biological events in the movie or book. Keep in mind that Biology is the study of LIFE. For example, you may choose to focus on an event about disease, birth/death, use of the scientific method or skills, etc.
- 4) **(15 pts) Evaluate** – Was the science accurately portrayed for each of your chosen events? Was it made up by some Hollywood producer or all in the head of an author? A combination? For each of your three chosen biological events, evaluate the **validity of the science**. This needs to be RESEARCH BASED. It's what we do in science; we come to conclusions based on evidence.
- 5) **(5 pts) Cite your references (at least three on a works cited page)** that substantiate your evaluation (this means you must demonstrate to me that you've *researched* the biological events). Make sure that you are using credible sources of information. *You should reference your resources in your writing, but you do not need to include in text citations unless you want to.*

*Note: Please refrain from using reviews of the science done by other individuals as your main research based sources of information. You may use these as guides, if they exist, but I am interested in **your** analysis, not someone else's :-)
- 6) **(5 pts) List 5** really awesome, thoughtful, insightful questions you want to further investigate after having read the book or watched the movie. Good questions are indicative of your **understanding** of the material, and make you want to think even more!

**Your analysis should be 2-3 typed pages
(font no larger than 12 point, double spaced).**

Suggested book/movie list

The following are suggested references. You may choose something else - contact me via e-mail if you are unsure of its appropriateness. If you do not get a response from me for whatever reason, you will need to choose something from the list!

Books:

Oryx and Crake - Margaret Atwood

Deception Point - Dan Brown

Next; Micro – Michael Chriton

Year of Wonders – Geraldine Brooks

Dooms Day Book – Connie Willis

Panic in Level 4 – Richard Preston

State of Wonder – Anne Patchett

Between a Rock and a Hard Place – Aron Ralston (the movie is 127 Hours)

Remarkable Creatures – Tracy Chevalier

Life as we Knew It; The Dead and the Gone – Susan Beth Pfeffer

Change of Heart, My Sisters Keeper, or Handle with Care – Jodi Picoult

Movies

The Space Between Us

I am Legend

The Painted Veil

Mary and Martha

127 Hours

Contagion

Big Miracle

A Sound of Thunder

Outbreak

Medicine Man

Extraordinary Measures

Lorenzo's Oil

Philadelphia

Deep Impact

The Day after Tomorrow

The Red Planet

The Andromeda Strain (old or new version; also a book)

The Island

Awakenings

Avatar