

THE STORYBOARD

Each cycle you will take the section you've read, and portray it in comic strip or graphic novel form. This is the way you will show your summary, or "retell," of the significant events in your cycle.

You will need to use at least five scenes per cycle. Think about the most important (or "critical") scenes in that section, and go from there. Each cycle's page will need to be labeled, and you can either do this in a sixth box on the page, or across the top, the bottom, the side, etc. It's up to you to use your artistic skills, knowledge of the book, and critical thinking skills to apply what you've read to this medium. You should also use captions and dialogue bubbles in your graphic representation, so the reader has a clear idea of what you are summarizing. Look at some other examples of graphic novels and comic strips to get some further ideas. Your art skills are secondary to your planning and choice of scenes, accuracy, etc. You can be creative even if you draw stick people! Remember the details!

You will need to hand in the rough copy of your comic strip at the end of each cycle, along with your lit log and other materials. The teacher(s) will check off that the rough copy for that cycle is complete, and at the end of the literature circle (if not before), you will have some time to work on recreating a good copy, using colour, detail, etc.

You will receive two marks for the final copy: a reading mark for your successful selection of critical scenes, and an oral and visual communication mark for your effectiveness of presentation as a media project.

Think about:

- Do you want your comic squares to be all the same size and shape, or will it be more effective and/or in your style to make them different?
- Do you want to use a specific colour scheme that will reinforce the themes and mood of the book? What would this scheme be, if so?
- Do you want your squares to be attached, floating around the page, in a certain order, or what?
- Can you show some scenes from different perspectives (perhaps what the protagonist sees, or someone else observes)?
- Have you chosen the five (or more) most significant scenes in that chapter?
- What medium would be most effective for adding colour/tone? Should you use paint, coloured pencil, markers, graphite pencil with tone values of black and white (achromatic), or what?

Happy drawing!

(M.Martin, 2007)