



Advanced Placement Novel Studies  
 “Who Watches the Watchmen?”: Semester project  
 Grade Level: 11 and 12

<p><b>OVERVIEW</b></p>	<p>This is an individual project for a class of advanced juniors and seniors. It will be a culmination of other literature studied thus far in the semester, but will focus on the graphic novel <i>Watchmen</i>. Students will write a paper and give a creative comparative presentation. All of these projects will be evaluated by me and by their peers in Jotform 3.0’s Evaluation Survey.</p>
<p><b>OBJECTIVE</b></p>	<p>The objective of using a graphic novel is to introduce students to various forms of learning, stretching their expectations and capabilities. The objective of having the students compare <i>Watchmen</i> to the other, more traditional novels studied is to promote an atmosphere that encourages independent thought and decision, as well as prompting students to look at the big picture of novel themes and how students can apply those themes in real life. The objective of the paper is to be able to analyze a situation, make a decision, and defend it. The paper’s topic will be “Vigilantism: Does the end ever justify the means?”</p>
<p><b>STANDARDS</b></p>	<p><b>1A5b:</b>                  Analyze the meaning of abstract concepts and the effects of particular word and phrase choices.  <b>1B5a:</b>                  Relate reading to prior knowledge and experience and make connections to related information.  <b>1C5e:</b>                  Evaluate how authors and illustrators use text and art across materials to express their ideas (e.g., complex dialogue, persuasive techniques).</p>
<p><b>MATERIALS</b></p>	<p><i>Watchmen</i>                  Select two of the other novels studied this semester  <i>Watchmen</i> the movie                  Class notes                  Any materials utilized in presentation</p>
<p><b>PROCEDURE</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The class will read <i>Watchmen</i> and complete the normal homework assignments, quizzes, and test.</li> <li>2. We will view the movie version in class, and discuss the differences between the original and the Hollywood version.</li> <li>3. The students will then choose one major character from the original and do</li> </ol>



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	<p>an in-depth character analysis covering one of the major topics from a handout prompt.</p> <p>4. Students will present their character analysis to the class using whatever means they wish. Ten minute presentations must compare and contrast their character to a) one other character from one of the more traditional novels we have studied this semester b) a celebrity within the last century (living or dead) and c) themselves. Presentations may use relevant songs, poetry, images, movie clips, powerpoint slides, puppet shows, etc.</p> <p>5. Each student will write an 8-10 page paper defending their viewpoint on the topic of vigilantism. Students must cite three specific instances from the book defending their viewpoint, use one current event from a reputable source, and briefly apply their viewpoint to the topic of the American Revolution.</p>
<b>EVALUATION</b>	<p>The kids will all evaluate themselves and each other’s presentation in Jotform 3.0’s Evaluation Survey. This will generate more honest discussion and constructive criticism than a face to face confrontation.</p>