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# LEARNING THROUGH THE NEWS

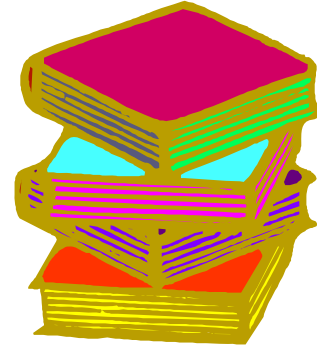
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## **BOOK JACKET REVIEW**

**SUGGESTED TIME:** Students should have a week and a weekend to complete their book jackets. Oral presentations should be 2 to 4 minutes.

**AIM:** Students will:

- Help each other review for the final exam by creating book jackets on the major works of literature to be covered on the exam. Oral presentations will be also be given.



**MATERIALS:** Newspapers, long sheets of colorful paper (22 inches by 10 inches), computers, Internet access.

### **PROCEDURE:**

*Looking for a creative to review for the final exam? This activity helps students relearn material they have already covered and present it to the class.*

1. Make a list of the major novels and plays covered during the year. Include the names of playwrights and authors on the list. (Long short stories can also be included.)
2. Cut sheets of bulletin board paper into 22-inch by 10-inch rectangles. Fold paper in half and then three-inch-wide flaps should be folded inward at each end to create a book jacket.
3. Students are to put the title, author, and an illustration of a major scene in the book or play on the front cover.
4. Inside the front flap, they are to write an intriguing synopsis of the book without revealing the ending. They should include all major characters. They can look at sample summaries in the book review section of the Sunday newspaper. Students' work should be typed and glued to the front flap.
5. On the back flap, students should write biographical information about the author including any awards the book, play or story may have received. This too should be typed and glued in place.
6. On the back cover, students should write quotations from critics who have reviewed the book or play. They can use the Internet and the newspaper to obtain the information.
7. Finally, each group should make an oral presentation of their book cover to the rest of the class. This will assist the entire class in reviewing the major works covered on the final exam.

— *Activity submitted by Kim McDermott, English Instructor, Grade 11, Garrett Academy of Technology, Charleston, SC.*

This TNT activity addresses the following national learning standards:

#### **Language Arts**

#2 Students read a wide range of literature from many periods in many genres to build an understanding of the many dimensions (e.g. philosophical, ethical, aesthetic) of human experience. #5 Students employ a wide range of strategies as they write and use different writing process elements appropriately to communicate with different audiences for a variety of purposes. — *Source: National Council of Teachers of English/International Reading Association List of Standards for the English Language Arts, 1996.*

