

GATE Summer Reading Assignment 2009

Every student is required to read three books from the approved book list. Then, choose ONE of the following assignments. You will choose to create book jackets OR to write a short story OR to write book reviews.

Create a book jacket for EACH book. Follow the models seen in class and include the following:

1. Front Flap: Synopsis of the book that does not reveal the end. The synopsis teases the reader and makes them want to read the book. Read real book jackets before you make your own.
2. Back Flap: Author information, quotes from reviewers, quotes from you or from others who have read the same book. (Comparisons to other books by the same author are recommended.)
3. Book cover: An ORIGINAL creation/illustration with the book title and author. (The illustration may not be the same or similar to the one on the actual book.)

Create a fantasy/science fiction story of your own. This assignment is ONLY for those reading three books from the fantasy and/or science fiction genre. Options to include in your story:

1. A "next in the series" story
2. A story that incorporates main characters from each of the three books into a good vs. evil short story (3 pages). The exposition must be taken from one of the novels.

Create a "Book Review" page of a newspaper. Include the following in your newspaper column:

1. A review of EACH book is required. Each review must analyze the book, NOT SUMMARIZE IT. Suggestions for review topics: Analyze the development of the characters and/or the plot (are the plot and characters developed realistically?); use the elements of plot to analyze the development of the theme throughout the book (over-all, does the book have a good message for the reader?); analyze each book by comparing it to other books by this author (which characters are more/less developed; which story is most effective?).
2. Be sure to include author information.
3. Read real reviews before you write your own. Read book reviews in newspapers such as *The Los Angeles Times* and *The Orange County Register* for ideas. Newspapers and magazines have book review columns online as well.