British Literature

Inform Speech (Major Project)

**What is it?**

* Your next major project is a 5-8 min. inform speech on a topic or time period of British history/literature.
* Topics (suggestions on the back side) vary, and as a class, we’ll decide how we want to do this so there’s a good amount of variety in the speeches.
* Your speech’s main purpose is to inform: to give context and a realistic, accurate picture of your topic. We’re aiming for a middle-ground between broad and detailed.
* Your speech needs an introduction, 3-point body, and conclusion.
* There are three main purposes of this project:

1. By researching the speech you’ll develop your researching skills.
2. By presenting the speech itself you’ll develop your speaking skills.
3. By hearing these speeches you’ll learn about British history/lit.

**So, about citations…**

* An MLA works cited page with at least 3 credible sources is required for you to receive any credit for this speech. It must be turned in before you speak, so if you haven’t done your works cited page by the speech due date, it’s late.
* You are also given credit for citing sources in your speech, but failure to do so won’t result in an automatic 0 (most you could lose is 10 points)

**How is it graded?**

* Your speech is worth 100 points.
* 70 points for the writing of the speech
  + Intro/conclusion (25 pt)
  + Body points 1-3 (15 each x 3 = 45 pt)
* 20 points for presentation
  + Verbal: Volume, pacing, clarity of voice, etc. (10)
  + Nonverbal: Eye contact, hand gestures, posture, etc. (10)
* 10 points for citations (every time fact given, source clearly cited)

Inform Speech topics…

Time periods

* Anglo-Saxon, Old English
* Medieval era, Middle English
* Elizabethan era
* The Restoration
* The Enlightenment
* Romantic Era
* Modern era
* Postmodern era

Authors / Major works

* Chaucer / *Canterbury Tales*
* Shakespeare / *Hamlet*
* Milton / *Paradise Lost*
* Blake / *Songs of Innocence & Experience*
* Wordsworth & Coleridge / *Lyrical Ballads*
* Shelley / *Frankenstein*
* Dickens / *A Christmas Carol*

Topics throughout the timeline

* Role of the Church in society
* Evolution of the English language
* Changes in writing styles
* Gender roles
* Politics and power
* British imperialism and war
* Technology and economy
* Fashion and/or food