***Individual Oral Presentation Tips***

**Suggested activities**

The following list applies to all the options studied in part 4 of the course and contains examples of the wide

range of activities that are acceptable for the individual oral presentation. This list is neither exhaustive nor

prescriptive. The examples are only suggestions and may be added to by teachers, or by students with the

approval of teachers. Students should select the activity most appropriate to the topic chosen.

The individual presentation may be done in a pair or as part of a small group of students. In that case, each

student must give an individual presentation 10–15 minutes in length that can be individually assessed by

the teacher.

* A critique of the student’s own writing that has been produced in the style of one of the literary genres

studied

* An explanation of a particular aspect of an author’s work
* The examination of a particular interpretation of a work
* The setting of a particular writer’s work against another body of material, for example, details on social

background or political views

* A commentary on the use of a particular image, idea or symbol in one text or in a writer’s work
* A performance or a pastiche of a poem being studied—this activity should be followed by some

explanation and discussion of what the student attempted to do

* A comparison of two passages, two characters or two works
* A commentary on a passage from a work studied in class, which has been prepared at home
* An account of the student’s developing response to a work
* The presentation of two opposing readings of a work
* A monologue or dialogue by a character at an important point in the work
* Reminiscences by a character from a point in later life
* An author’s reaction to a particular interpretation of elements of his or her work in a given context

(for example, a critical defense of the work against a charge of subversion, or immorality, before a

censorship board)

Please note that students who choose creative presentations must provide a rationale for what they have

done.

**Tips:**

* **Select a topic that is tightly focused.** For example not just “Race and Gender” in the novels studied but “How racial hierarchy is set up in the novels and the way it impacts on gender.” Rather than “Power Relations” you could say “The way different characters’ power is presented through the use of language.”
* **Select the most appropriate extracts to demonstrate your points of view.** The extracts you choose should be most appropriate to highlight the points you want to make. Make sure that you focus on every literary technique contained and explain their effect. Include syntax and diction as well as the more obvious literary techniques used in prose.
* **Make sure that you fulfill the criteria listed on the Assessment sheet.** Look at what marks are awarded for and make sure that you fulfill all of the criteria
* **Rehearse your presentation** again and again and time it. You should sound confident, face the audience, maker sure to make eye contact throughout the presentation. Notes should only be lightly referred to and not read the whole way through. DO NOT write out your presentation as if an essay, or you will be trying to remember what you wrote and that is not an oral. You should sound interested in your own speech- vary tone and gesture. Avoid being too technological, though simple visual aids and props can be helpful. PowerPoint presentations should be there to refer to and not to rely on. You must fulfill time requirements or you will be penalized.
* **Prepare for questions.** You will be asked questions at the end of your presentation, so make sure that you come up with a list of possible questions you might be asked and think about the answers. Make sure you understand how the extract fits into your understanding of the rest of the novel.

**A Few More Tips:**

* Choose a topic that you are interested in.
* Discuss your ideas with your teacher.
* Prepare carefully and thoroughly.
* Make sure that your presentation focuses on aspects on which you will be assessed (that means READ THE RUBRIC!).
* PowerPoint is **not** an acceptable delivery method for this particular type of assessment. Only use PPT as a visual aid that will *enhance* your presentation, not as a bulleted list of points to say.

**\*A Note on Guidance and Authenticity\***

The oral presentation must be the work of the student and it may not be written out in full and read. Authenticity may be checked by discussion with the student on the content of the work, and the scrutiny of the notes (if any) used by the student.

The requirement for teachers and students to sign the coversheet for internal assessment applies to the work of all students, not just the sample work that will be submitted to an examiner for the purpose of moderation. If the teacher and student sign a coversheet, but there is a comment to the effect that the work may not be authentic, the student will not be eligible for a mark in that component and no grade will be awarded.