Name: _____________________________________
Mrs. Loux
English 4 Academic

The Metamorphosis
Franz Kafka

Kafka is important to us because his predicament is the predicament of modern man.
—British poet W. H. Auden

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<th>Period 2</th>
<th>Group 1</th>
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<td>Ayman</td>
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**How to have a successful group:**
- Exchange phone numbers and create a group chat
- Assign roles and stick with them
- Create a shared folder in Google Docs with all important information
- Stay on top of one another!
The Metamorphosis: Background Information and Research

Background: A novella is a work of prose fiction that is generally longer than a short story but not quite as lengthy as a novel. The novella generally describes one specific event or conflict. In this case, Gregor Samsa is a traveling salesman who wakes up one morning and finds himself transformed into a grotesque vermin. Following his metamorphosis, Gregor and his family struggle to adjust to the new situation as they try to redefine their individual roles in the family and in society.

Often, a novella presents a psychologically complex scenario or conflict. Gregor’s transformation presents a number of psychological challenges to Gregor and his family. Gregor has to come to terms with his inability to go to work and provide for his family, while his father and mother must adjust their comfortable lifestyle to meet new financial challenges. Gregor’s sister undergoes a transformation from caring to domineering as she tries to find her place as a woman at her mother’s side within the family.

Directions: You and your group will research, present and teach the class about your assigned topic. This background information will help us have a better understanding of Franz Kafka’s purpose in writing The Metamorphosis, as well as how to look at this novella through other literary lenses.

• STEP #1: Research your “ism” or topic by starting with a basic Google search or using the provided links. Don’t forget to learn how this “ism” is viewed in literature. For example: Google “Expressionism” AND “Expressionism in literature”.

• STEP #2: READ! READ! READ! This part takes time and should not be rushed. As a group determine the most important characteristics about your topic. Consider what everyone should know about your topic, particularly if they are to view a piece of literature through your lens.

• STEP #3: Once you determine the important points and key facts for understanding, put all of this information on the Google Slides presentation located in the shared Google Drive folder. Feel free to also include pictures, short videos, and other links that will aid in their understanding.

• STEP #4: Determine how you will present this information to the class. You will be required to teach for a minimum of 10 minutes and will also have to answer questions. Remember you should NOT read directly from the slides. Put up BULLET points of information, not complete sentences.
Resources

Surrealism:
- http://www.theartstory.org/movement-surrealism.htm
- http://www.britannica.com/art/Surrealism
- https://www.moma.org/learn/moma_learning/themes/surrealism
- http://www.shmoop.com/surrealism/characteristics.html
- http://www.shmoop.com/surrealism/

Expressionism:
- http://www.theartstory.org/movement-expressionism.htm
- http://www.artmovements.co.uk/expressionism.htm
- http://www.britannica.com/art/Expressionism
- http://autocww.colorado.edu/~flc/E64ContentFiles/PeriodsAndStyles/Expressionism.htm

Existentialism:
- http://www.allaboutphilosophy.org/existentialism.htm
- http://www.iep.utm.edu/existent/
- http://www.britannica.com/topic/existentialism

Absurdism:
- http://thewritepractice.com/the-absurd/
- https://danielmiessler.com/blog/difference-existentialism-nihilism-absurdism/

Franz Kafka:
- http://www.biography.com/people/franz-kafka-9359401
- http://www.kafka.org
- http://www.kafka-online.info/franz-kafka-biography.htm
The Metamorphosis: Topics for Discussion

How does a sense of responsibility toward family, culture, or society affect the way people lead their lives?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEFINE AND LIST CHARACTERISTICS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HUMAN</td>
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<tr>
<td>BUG</td>
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<tr>
<td>METAMORPHOSIS</td>
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The Metamorphosis: Group Roles

**Discussion Director**

The student with this role is the group leader. He/she is responsible for keeping the group on task, collecting phones to avoid distractions, sending reminders for homework/assessments, as well as leading the group in textually based discussions. The Discussion Director will also lead discussions on the study guide questions, as well as other open-ended questions.

**Tech Coordinator**

The Tech Coordinator is responsible for typing up the answers to the study guide questions on a Google Doc that is shared with everyone in the group. The study guide questions must be typed and written in complete sentences. The Tech Coordinator must also add all evidence to the class Padlet.

Directions: Track Gregor’s continuing transition from human to beetle. Construct a list of direct evidence including page numbers that exemplifies this transition. Consider what qualities and characteristics make him “human-like” and what makes him “bug-like”? Feel free to add videos, images, and memes to the Padlet as well. Be sure to include your name on the post so your group earns credit. Do not repeat evidence other groups post!

Period 2: [http://padlet.com/jloux/metahumanvsbug2](http://padlet.com/jloux/metahumanvsbug2)
Period 6: [http://padlet.com/jloux/metahumanvsbug6](http://padlet.com/jloux/metahumanvsbug6)
Period 7: [http://padlet.com/jloux/metahumanvsbug7](http://padlet.com/jloux/metahumanvsbug7)

**Literary Luminary**

The Literary Luminary is responsible for tracking Gregor’s transition from human to bug and identifying the relevant evidence in the text. Consider physical, social, and mental transitions. You should select one color hi-liter for the “human-like” characteristics and one color for “bug-like”. Everyone in the group must highlight their respective copies, and the Literary Luminary must be sure this is done!

**Close Reader**

The Close Reader is tasked with reading aloud the majority of the text while in the small group, as well as leading the group in writing close reading notes in the margins. Remember close reading consists of: (1) Writing Summaries (2) Defining Unknown Words (3) Asking Questions (4) Identifying Language and Literary Devices (5) Commenting on the Speaker and (6) Making Personal Connections. Everyone in the group must write the same close reading notes on their respective copies, and the Close Reader must be sure this is done!
The Metamorphosis: Study Guide Questions

CHAPTER 1:
• Metaphorically, what does it mean to be a "bug"? Provide several examples.
• Make a listing of some of the humorous scenes. Why do you think they are humorous?
• Describe Gregor's room. What is the picture hanging on the wall?
• Describe Gregor's own attitude and his reaction to his new predicament.
• Describe what life was like for Gregor before his metamorphosis, at home and on job.
• Describe everyone's reaction as they see Gregor come out of his room.
• In what ways do you think Gregor was like a "bug" even before his metamorphosis?

CHAPTER 2:
• Describe how and what Gregor eats.
• What is his family situation like?
• How does Gregor's sister treat him differently from the way he is treated by his parents?
• How does Gregor entertain himself?
• Why doesn't Gregor want his furniture moved out?
• What kind of changes does Gregor notice in his father?

CHAPTER 3:
• How does Gregor's family try to make life seem "normal" for themselves?
• What prevents the family from moving to a smaller apartment?
• How do they try to manage financially?
• How has Gregor's attitude toward his family changed?
• How has Grete's treatment of Gregor changed?
• What changes take place in Gregor's room?
• What is Gregor's attitude toward the roomers? Why?
• Describe Gregor's reaction as he hears his sister play the violin.
• Why do the roomers threaten to leave?
• Describe the scene of Gregor's death.
• Describe how each family member reacts when they hear that Gregor is dead.
• How do they celebrate Gregor's death?
• Who do you think is responsible for Gregor's fate? To what extent do you think he is responsible?
The Metamorphosis: Final Assessment

Directions:
For your final assessment on The Metamorphosis you will submit a 1-2 page paper that explores how the text is viewed through ONE of the following lenses: Absurdism, Existentialism, Expressionism, Freudianism or Surrealism. Consider the following questions when writing your paper:

• How is The Metamorphosis an example of a(n) absurdist/existential/expressionist/ Freudian/surrealist text?
• What evidence from the text supports that it is a(n) absurdist/existential/expressionist/ Freudian/surrealist novella?
• Which character(s) found in the text represent your “ism”?
• What theme(s) found in the text represent your “ism”?
• How does Kafka’s style represent your “ism”? [Author’s style: tone, syntax, diction, point of view, figurative language]

Requirements:
• 1-2 pages.
• Uses DIRECT evidence from the novella and includes page numbers.
  o The citation should look as followed: Tag “Quote…” (Kafka #).
  o EXAMPLE: Gregor states, “I woke up one morning and I was a monstrous vermin” (Kafka 1).
• All outside research should be cited.
• Typed in MLA format (12 pt font, Times New Roman, 1 inch margins, double spaced).
• MLA heading (Your name, my name, course date, page numbers top right corner).
• Essay PRINTED and submitted no later than 1:45pm on Thursday, March 24th.
• -10 points EACH DAY that it is late.
### The Metamorphosis: Rubric (200 point Classwork Grade)

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<th>NAME</th>
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<td>TECH COORDINATOR</td>
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<td>LITERARY LUMINARY</td>
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<td>CLOSE READER</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Research and Presentation: (“ism presentation/PPT) __________/30
- Study Guide Questions: (one PRINTED copy) __________/50
- Transition Chart: (evidence on Padlet) __________/50
- Close Reading Notes: (every group members text with highlights/notes) __________/50
- Group Cohesiveness: (equal contribution/how well working together) __________/20

**TOTAL:** __________/200
**The Metamorphosis: Rubric (100 point Writing Grade)**

**Thesis Statement**
- Thesis is detailed, original, and reflects the selected lens __________/10
- Thesis relates to and extends beyond the topic
- Easily identifiable, plausible, creative and insightful

**Content and Use of Text**
- Lens is applied correctly and clearly to the novella __________/30
- Arguments are logical and insightful
- Demonstrates understanding of the text and author’s intent
- Incorporates pertinent examples and quotes from the text
- Cites text appropriately (in MLA format) to further enhance the argument
- Coherently analyzes the text/quotations to support thesis and argument

**Organization of Ideas**
- Clearly presents thesis __________/30
- Clear topic sentences
- Coherent organization of arguments/evidence within the body and essay as a whole
- Text flows naturally from one idea to another
- Transitions evident in the beginning/end of each supporting paragraph
- Conclusion that offers insight and greater understanding

**Writing Style**
- Demonstrates a strong command of the English language __________/20
- Consistent tense used throughout
- Avoids slang and conversational tone
- Uses appropriate vocabulary
- Varied sentence structure

**Academic Format**
- Proper MLA format for academic writing __________/10
- Proper MLA heading for academic writing
- Does not exceed two pages

**TOTAL**
- __________/100

**Please note:** 1 point will be deducted from your final grade if you:
- Use first person pronouns
- Use second person pronouns
- Misspell a word, the title of the play, or the author
- Do not put the title in italics (*The Metamorphosis*)
- Do not use the correct punctuation or capitalization