

Past IB Individual Oral Presentation Topics: Literature & Film

2012-2013 School Year:

Comparison of author's background on the writing of the novel. Fitzgerald and Tolkien lived around a time of mechanization, how do their views on this industrialization differ in their novels?

Comparison of narrators in *The Great Gatsby* and *The Book Thief*

The theme of communication in the novel: *The Book Thief*. How the characters communicate with each other verbally & non-verbally.

The comparison of courage in *The Hobbit* and *The Book Thief*.

The importance of colors in *The Book Thief*.

Through a modern take of dance show the emotional inner conflict of the major characters in *TBT* & *TGG*.

Comparisons between *The Hobbit* and the *Chronicles of Narnia*.

Comparison in thematic elements between *The Great Gatsby* and *The Sound of Waves*.

Some of the strongest of bonds are created through the most dangerous events.: *TBT*, *The Hobbit*

The image of a hero in *The Hobbit*; particularly why Thorin is not considered a hero but Bilbo is.

How the 1920's changed and corrupted the American Dream.

How the Jazz Age is reflected within *The Great Gatsby* and Fitzgerald's opinions on it.

How does power corrupt humanity? *TGG* & *TBT*

Homoeroticism in *The Great Gatsby*

The affect of the author's lives on the creation of the novel.

The time period in which the novel was written and how it affected the novel as a whole and how it was reflected in the movie.

Talk about the ways in which the authors portrayed the society in each of the works and how society really was during the time period of each work.

Contrasting the significance of home in *The Hobbit* vs. *The Book Thief*. What do the differences and similarities imply about the theme of home in each work?

The Hobbit: The Forerunner of the Modern Fantasy Literature

Analysis on Zusak and Tolkien's perspective of the theme of loyalty in *The Book Thief* and *The Hobbit*
Significance of the theme loyalty throughout *The Hobbit*. Why did Tolkien put such significance on loyalty among all members of the company?

A commentary on the use of imagery in Middle Earth in *The Hobbit*

Analysis of Tolkien's concept of Middle Earth and the renewal of wonder he wished to inspire through the setting.

The theme of death within two texts and Hitler's influence on Zusak and Tolkien's writing of "The Book Thief" and "The Hobbit".

The theme of courage in "The Hobbit". If courage is driven by the fear of losing life or the fear of losing what could have been gained.

Compare and contrast the theme of friendship in "The Hobbit" and "The Book Thief".

Discussing in depth the character of Death watching over the characters in The Book Thief and the eyes of Dr. T.J. Eckleburg watching over the characters in the Great Gatsby.

In both The Book Thief and The Great Gatsby, a dream is born. The Great Gatsby and The American Dream, and The Book Thief with the Dream for Freedom from all the wrongs of Hitler; both very valid dreams but what are the characters reasons for these dreams? Discuss in depth how each dream was an important addition to each novel.

Creating digital/traditional drawings that Illustrate scenes, symbols, and imagery in the novels, and analyze Illustrations already made for both novels.

Evaluate how the time period and setting influence the trials and tribulations a character must face.

Discuss the use of fantasy in The Hobbit and analyze Peter Jackson's decisions (in regards to the first film, and therefore the first third of the book) in what to include and what not to include based upon feasibility.

Is struggle for love greater than the battle between good and evil, vice versa, or are they one in the same?

Analysis of the Archetypal characters in The Hobbit and The Book Thief

Compare and contrast Bilbo Baggin's and Liesel's Meminger's ideas of home and how these concepts have changed due to Bilbo's having to adapt to non-hobbitish values during his journey and due to Liesel's having to adapt to a new family and ending up losing it.

Analyze how the societal values in The Great Gatsby and The Hobbit influenced Gatsby and Bilbo and transformed their character. Why did Gatsby pursue the American Dream (typical of the time period), while Bilbo chose to go on the journey with the dwarves (not typical of hobbits)?

Are humans brutal or beautiful?

From a cinematographer's point of view, what would they look for in trying to adapt the setting from page into a visual image?

Through which characters is the theme of heroism relevant in The Book Thief by Markus Zusak and The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien?

The comparisons in Tolkien's novels of Bilbo and Frodo and how both of the heroes journeys are similar and how they also contrast.

Significance of each book that Liesel obtains.

Comparison of racial profiling in the Hobbit and the Book Thief.

An analysis of worth and character interpretations of it in the Hobbit and the Great Gatsby.

How do the symbols in The Great Gatsby tie the story together? What is the purpose of Fitzgerald incorporating them into the story? How did they translate to the film?

The implementation of Deus Ex Machina and its developmental effect in *The Book Thief*.

Social aspects of race, wealth, and power demonstrated in *The Hobbit*.

Analyze Liesel's and the dwarves's journey of finding a home.

Compare and Contrast the affects of Nick Carraway and Death as by-standers in the stories.

Examine fidelity, sound, lighting, intertextuality, editing, and invented characters in *The Hobbit* and *The Fellowship of the Ring*.

Examine world creation in *The Hobbit* and *The Book Thief* as a means to comment on 1930's society and the human condition.

Compare and contrast the hero cycles of Liesel Meminger and Bilbo Baggins

Comparison and contrast between Thorin Oakenshield and Prince Hamlet. Look at their characteristics, their motivation, the ways they go about regaining their thrones, the enemies they have to face, so on and so forth.

Look at how Tolkien uses the influences of the First and Second World Wars to influence his Writing of *The Hobbit* and *The Fellowship of the Ring*

Examine the Social Classes of the Different Races within *The Hobbit*

The Great Gatsby's Wilson's role in the novel--similar to Hamlet's--- his significance as a character progressing throughout the novel, but mainly on how he is left after he thinks Gatsby is the one who murdered his wife and his psychological state.

In addition, The similarities between Hamlet and Wilson. Essentially, how they're driven by the same motive, revenge. How revenge plays a role in both of these authors' thematic implementations and how what effects it brings to the both of the texts.

What necessary changes are made in order to successfully adapt a texts into a modern film?: *The Hobbit*

Comparing how Tolkien developed Bilbo on his adventure in *The Hobbit* and how Paolini developed Eragon through his adventure in *The Inheritance Cycle*.

Writing an additional chapter in *The Book Thief* about Death meeting Max upon his death.

Analyzing how Bilbo's time with the dwarves changed his priorities from self serving to companionship.

Analysis of the mythology surrounding "*The Hobbit*"

Analysis of the text to film adaptations for "*The Hobbit*" and "*Fellowship of the Ring*"

Discovery of identity through times of crisis.

Compare and contrast the female characters in *Th Great Gastby* and *The Book Thief*

Herosim, sacrifice and companionship can be found in the mist of great cruelty

How does war distort the lives of innocent individuals in *The Hobbit* and *The Book Thief*?

I want to analyze Bilbo's growth as an individual throughout *The Hobbit*. Explore how he gains courage, an adventurous spirit, and how he wins over the dwarves as they begin to look up to him. Perhaps I could

show the unique ways in which Tolkien went about this and compare/contrast them with the ways Peter Jackson did in the film adaption.

Artistic interpretation of the loss of the American Dream in the 1920s and how that is reflected in *The Great Gatsby* and *The Beautiful and the Damned* (connection of artistic pieces from the time and how they are a reflection of the text)

What are the detrimental effects of excessive treasure lust and value of the vain? Is this lust naturally in one or is it embedded by a fallen/falling society? How would the world and society be different if "more of us valued food and cheer and song above hoarded gold"?

Monogamy in *The Great Gatsby*; How humans feel the need to destroy beautiful things, marriage being one of them. Or is love the beautiful thing that humans ruin with marriage.