

Talk Show

It is important to talk about issues and concerns related to adolescents so you know how to act if you are in a similar situation. I hope that you do not have to directly deal with any of these problems at any time in your lives, but the truth is some of you or people you know and come in contact with will. It is my hope to expose you to and make you aware of some of the issues present in adolescents' lives, so that you choose to steer clear of the problems that may one day present themselves to you.

You will be reading a book that focuses on an adolescent concern, such as gangs, bulimia, or alcohol/drug abuse. Upon reading your book you will participate in a panel discussion, talk show to be moderated and evaluated. In addition to answering specific questions about your own book, you will also need to discuss broad thematic issues relating to all of the books in your group. You will need to act as your character dealing with the problem you faced in the novel and discuss this problem with others. The audience will ask questions based on your issue and you will be responsible for answering those questions as your character would. You should also be prepared to answer questions about what you think about this issue. Please be prepared to engage in a thoughtful and detailed discussion.

To fully prepare for your role you will also need to do research on the topic of concern presented in your novel. By researching, you will gain more knowledge on the topic and be able to discuss it in greater depth, and you will also relate this information to your novel to see what connections are present.

The rubric on which you will be graded is below. Good luck!

| | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|----------------|--|--|---|
| Character | Accurate portrayal including thorough explanation of how character dealt with and solved problem | Accurate portrayal, but sketchy explanation of how character dealt with and solved problem | Accurate portrayal with little explanation of how character dealt with and solved problem |
| Connection | Relates concern to classmates with an example | | Does not relate concern to classmates |
| Research | Includes ample evidence of research during the talk show | Includes some evidence of research during the talk show | Includes little evidence of research during the talk show |
| Discussion | Ample communication and relates information to and with all or most other participants | Some communication and relates information to and with some other participants | Little communication and relates information to and with few or no other participants |
| Overall Speech | Excellent eye contact, voice, and poise | Needs improvement in one area | Needs improvement in more than one area |