

Coleman Davis
Ms. Pitoscia
Language Arts Four
8th grade Page Middle School
Franklin, TN

07 October 2011
Memoir – Silver Linings by June Scobee Rodgers

Setting: Southeastern United States (1955-2011)
Item Chosen: Sand

I chose sand as my object for the purpose of not only representing the southeast with the shoreline but also symbolizing that June could not find a stable place to live. Each home she went to she would see it built, live in the residence and then move to a new domicile. She would plant a foundation in the sand, but it would not last long because of the lack of support.

Protagonist: June Scobee Rodgers
Item chosen: Labyrinth game

I think the labyrinth game represents June in that she is persistent. She has had so many obstacles to overcome. If that were me, I would go insane. On every single turn in her life, like in the labyrinth game, she finds a new problem. June always perseveres and gets through whatever is holding her back. It may take her a while, but she always finds her way.

Antagonist: NASA managers
Item chosen: Lego shuttle

I chose my Lego shuttle to represent the NASA managers because they ignored the warnings from the engineers and approved the launch on January 28, 1986. They thought too much of their technology and made seven families suffer greatly. The managers did not listen to the engineers who built Challenger and made June suffer dearly when Dick died in the Challenger explosion.

Major conflict: Person vs. person (public media); person vs. self (death of Dick)
Item chosen: Double sided tape

I think that the double sided tape would represent that both the media and herself were causing her troubles. The media kept showing the footage of the Challenger exploding over and over. They would also ask her uncomfortable questions and would never let her recuperate. The death of the astronauts was a

very public event with millions of people watching. It was also herself because she would not allow herself to let go of Dick which ultimately caused her to go to the hospital to be treated for stress. Since both sides of the tape are sticky, it is not easy to get it off. The same thing went for June; both the media and herself were causing her pain which was difficult to get rid of.
Complications: June's childhood memories

Item chosen: ABC alphabet

I chose the letters A, B and C as my object because when she was young and problems came up, she would recall her "ABC's". The "A" stood for attitude, "B" for belief and "C" for commitment. June would sometimes change what each letter stood for depending on her situation, but they would help her deal with the problem. Throughout her life, she remembered her "ABC's".

Climax: June's enlightenment

Item chosen: Bible

I chose a Bible for the climax because at that point June had realized that she had to let go of Dick and go on with her life. She had decided to create the Challenger Learning Centers. She drew strength from her faith and remembered Bible verses that made her see that she was not meant to focus on Dick's death, but to remember his life and purpose. Through her enlightenment June figured out how to turn Dick's death into a positive instead of a negative by creating the Challenger Learning Centers to promote the teacher in space program and much more.

Dénouement: Opening of the Challenger Learning Centers

Item chosen: Apple wrapped with red ribbon

I chose an apple wrapped with a red ribbon to symbolize the continuation of her teaching through the opening of Challenger Learning Centers. June did not actually teach at the centers, but she was able to mentor and ensure that students would have the opportunity to learn about science and math at the centers across the country.

Theme: Don't Give Up

Item chosen: The Little Engine that Could

The Little Engine that Could is a perfect object to represent the theme of Silver Linings. When June was young, people would make fun of her and tell her that she could not be a teacher. She did not give up on her dream and became a teacher. All throughout her life June has had hills or mountains to climb and has achieved her goal by staying focused and not giving up.

Name: _____

Block: _____

Novel Title: _____

Author: _____

Teacher Signature: _____

Nonfiction in a Bag Oral Presentation

DUE Thursday: October 12th

Your task is to choose 7 symbols that represent key literary terms from your NONFICTION BOOK and use objects to represent them. You should choose objects that will represent each of the following –**IN THIS ORDER**:

- The setting
- The protagonist (personality/character trait)
- The antagonist
- The conflict
- The rising action or complication
- Climax
- The resolution
- The theme – a sentence that shows the message of the book

Your objects should include a variety of items. ***You may draw or get pictures off the Internet, but no more than *two* items can be done this way. If you choose to do this, then it must be placed on a **large index card**.*** *MAKING your objects is an excellent option.*

Short Written Component:

On a piece of paper, **TYPE** your name, the book title, the genre, and author. Then, list each symbol/object you chose. After the object, put the **LITERARY TERM** that it represents in (PARENTHESES). Write a brief explanation that

describes why you chose this item and **HOW** it represents/symbolizes that literary term.

What does your bag look like???

Your bag must have the **title** of your book, author, your name, and class period on it. I recommend using a brown grocery bag. Be creative and decorate the outside of your bag with illustrations that are **RELEVANT** and **SYMBOLIC** of your book.

Name: _____

BLOCK: _____

Novel: _____

Genre: _____

Nonfiction in a Bag Rubric

THE BAG and SYMBOLS/OBJECTS:

Neatness/Symbol: Title of your book, genre, author, name, and block# on it. Bag is decorated & creatively/symbolically illustrated in a way that conveys the topic of your book (EXPLAINED during presentation).

___/12

Eight symbols/objects are used and cover the seven elements. No more than two objects are pictures. Item chosen is a **SYMBOLIC representation** of literary term that demonstrates *critical thinking* and *creativity* in choosing it.

___/24

TYPED Explanation:

Correct Format:

Heading is *left justified* with student name, teacher name, class, and MLA date. Title of book, author, and genre is listed and center aligned.

___/9

Content/Format:

Follows format given. **Literary term** stated and what it was in the book stated/ identified with a one to two sentence explanation. EX. WHY is this the protagonist, conflict, etc). **Item chosen to symbolize this literary term** is listed underneath. An explanation is given as to HOW this item represents the literary term (Critical thinking will be demonstrated as to the THREE reasons behind HOW the symbol chosen represents that literary term. ET²

___/40

Presentation:

Speaker is **PREPARED** (States genre of book read) and clearly explains the TWO reasons behind choice of object in a way that **FLOWS** . **Demonstrates an understanding of book/shows he or she read it.**

___/8

Well-paced, eye-contact, posture, speaks clearly and loudly, no "fillers," and is **ENGAGING**.

___/7

Total

Points: ___/100

Comments: