LESSON TITLE: JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER

Grade Level: 8-10

Subject: English Language Arts

Time: Four 50-minute sessions

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LESSON OVERVIEW

Summary: As an alternative to the ubiquitous book report, this lesson challenges students to recreate a cover for a recent book they have read. By analyzing book covers as a class, students will discover just how much the images and text selected for a book jacket can alter the message of a book. Using Lucidpress, students will design their own book jacket showing their comprehension of the text's plot, setting, characters and main themes. Maybe we *can* judge a book by its cover.

Essential Question: How do images affect meaning?

OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to...

- Identify the main components of a book cover/dust jacket
- Based on their comprehension of a book's plot, setting and characters, design a cover using Lucidpress
- Articulate the ways their chosen images and text communicate themes of the book

STANDARDS

Common Core

Reading : 8.2, 9-10.2

Speaking & Listening: 8.5, 9-10.5

ISTE

3C, 6B, 6D, 7B

LEARNING PLAN

Preparation: Gather popular book titles to analyze in class, or create slideshow of book cover images. If needed, view the one-minute Lucidpress Getting Started Guide. Create checklist of required components for book cover. Create rubric for assessment of covers.

LEARNING PLAN

1st Session:

- Set up classroom as a bookstore and as students enter, encourage them to browse the available selection for a few minutes.
- Gather as a group and discuss which books attracted students' interest and why. Discuss any judgments they make based on the images and text they see.
- Discuss the popular saying "Don't judge a book by its' cover." Encourage students to debate whether you can truly judge a book by its cover.
- Define and discuss components of a book cover: title, author, front cover, spine, back cover, teaser blurb, review quotes. Introduce project, hand out checklist and rubric.
- Ask students the essential question guiding this lesson: How do images affect meaning?
- Use remaining time for students to select the book and sketch ideas for the cover redesign.

2nd Session:

- Review project requirements, check that each student has selected a book title. If needed, walk students through the Interactive Lucidpress Tutorial.
- Open Lucidpress template Book Cover 01 or Book Cover 02. Use remaining class period to start creating covers, checking on students' progress and assisting as needed.

3rd Session:

- Use entire class period to finish book covers. Check on students' progress and assist as needed.

4th Session:

- Give students two minutes each to present their cover designs.
- Wrap up with discussion of how a book cover communicates the themes of a book. Revisit essential question: How do images affect meaning?
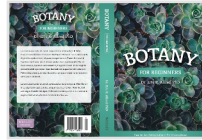
ASSESSMENT

In this project-based lesson, students will be assessed on their final book cover. Using a rubric, determine if students have effectively communicated the plot, setting and characters of a book through their designed cover. All components of the checklist should be included. Exceptional work will go beyond uploading images of the main character and attempt to illustrate deeper themes of the text, using symbolic images. Teaser text will showcase a students' interpretation of the literature. Assessment should also include the students' presentation and ability to compare and contrast the book's official cover and their own interpretation.

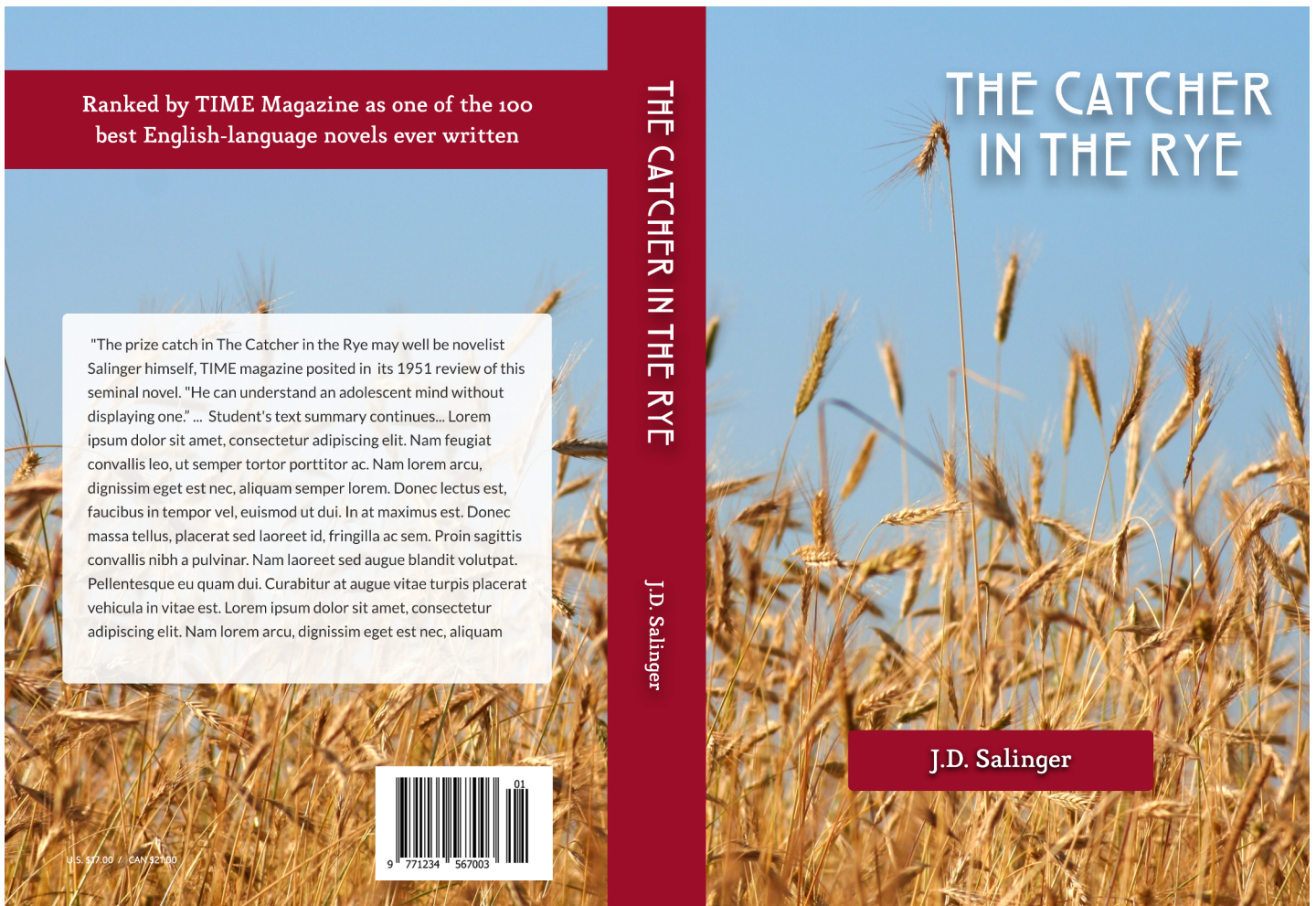## SUGGESTED LUCIDPRESS TEMPLATES FOR USE IN THIS LESSON

Book Cover 01

Book Cover 02

SAMPLE ASSIGNMENT

Ranked by TIME Magazine as one of the 100 best English-language novels ever written

"The prize catch in The Catcher in the Rye may well be novelist Salinger himself, TIME magazine posited in its 1951 review of this seminal novel. "He can understand an adolescent mind without displaying one." … Student's text summary continues… Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Nam feugiat convallis leo, ut semper tortor porttitor ac. Nam lorem arcu, dignissim eget est nec, aliquam semper lorem. Donec lectus est, faucibus in tempor vel, euismod ut dui. In at maximus est. Donec massa tellus, placerat sed laoreet id, fringilla ac sem. Proin sagittis convallis nibh a pulvinar. Nam laoreet sed augue blandit volutpat. Pellentesque eu quam dui. Curabitur at augue vitae turpis placerat vehicula in vitae est. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Nam lorem arcu, dignissim eget est nec, aliquam

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THE CATCHER IN THE RYE

J.D. Salinger

THE CATCHER IN THE RYE

J.D. Salinger

EXTENSIONS

- Have students design an autobiographical book cover for themselves
- Assign the same book to your class and analyze the different interpretations of the text
- Invite a graphic designer, illustrator or marketing expert to class to discuss the design process