The Hunger Games

Book Study

Communications 1040/1041

September 2012 to January 2013
The Hunger Games
Suzanne Collins
Book Report:

Read the book report assignment BEFORE you start your book. There are 5 parts to this book study.

- **Pre-Reading**
- **Ongoing**
- **Chapter Reading**
- **Major Project(s)**
- **Post-Reading**

Assignment 1
Assignment 2
Assignment 3
Assignment 4
Assignment 5

Sign out a book or get one from the library. [Another option is to purchase your own.] If you borrow a book from the School of Access, you must return the book before your report will be marked.

As you read, make notes of things you want to remember for your report. Write down direct quotes you plan to use. Make sure you jot down page numbers.

The report will be graded using the ALP Writing Rubric. Make sure your name, project number and assignment name/ number, and the date appear on everything you submit. Also make sure to number all your pages.

To receive top grades on your book report, back up your opinion with evidence taken directly from the book and from research. For example, When Collins says “…” (p. #), she is asserting the feeling that . . .

**Cross-curricular possibilities:** There are many possibilities for using this book as a project for sociology, geography and history. See your instructor for more information on how this could be counted as a cross-curricular assignment.
What should your finished book report look like?

- Make sure the book report is handed in as one neatly organized, stapled package.
- Do not hand in any part separately. Wait until the whole book report is complete.
- Include a creative cover page for the book report package, clearly identifying the book and the author.
- Include your contact information: full name, email and date submitted.

- Name and number each page.
- When citing text from the book, include the author’s name (Collins, the year the book was written and the page number) for the first quote. After that, just put the page number in brackets.
- If you are using other resources to back up points you are making, proper APA citation, both in text and reference page, is also required and will be part of your final grade.
- Organization, format, content and grammar/mechanics will be graded.
The Hunger Games Assignments

Pre-Reading Assignment 1

Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

- What do you value above everything else?
- What does it mean to survive?
- What is the most you would do to survive?
- What images does the title of the novel bring to mind?

Ongoing Assignment 2

Definitions:

As you read the book, fill in the definitions sheet included in this booklet.

Chapter Reading Assignment 3

Chapter Questions: As you read through the novel, answer questions for each chapter. Respond in complete sentences. *Academic students are required to use cited quotes and supportive research when applicable.* Graduate students will be given bonus marks for this.

Chapter 1
1. Describe District 12.
2. What illegal activity does Katniss participate in doing? Why does she need to do this?
3. Describe the relationship between Gale and Katniss. Do you have a relationship like this in your own life? Explain.
4. What is the reaping? Who is selected at the reaping? Do you think this practice is fair? Explain.

Chapter 2
1. How does Katniss save her sister from the reaping?
2. What kind of person do you think Peeta is? What evidence from the book led you to come to this conclusion?

Chapter 3
1. What instructions does Katniss leave for her mother?
2. What act of kindness does Peeta’s dad show to Katniss? How do you think this man might have influenced his son?
3. What advice does Gale give Katniss about surviving the games?
Chapter 4
1. Do you think Haymitch will be helpful as a mentor? Why or why not?
2. What does Katniss mean when she says: “A Kind Peeta Mellark is far more dangerous to me than an unkind one”?
3. What happens to convince Haymitch that Peeta and Katniss might be fighters?

Chapter 5
1. The presentation of the tributes seems to be greatly focused on visual presentation and looks — what does this reveal about the belief systems of the Capitol?
2. Compare and contrast life in the Capitol to life in District 12.

Chapter 6
1. What prevents tributes from jumping off the roof? Why do you think this is in place?
2. What reasons would Peeta have for being curious about Gale?

Chapter 7
1. What are the pros and cons of Peeta and Katniss being coached together?
2. What reasons does Peeta give for thinking Katniss will be better than him in the arena?
3. What does Katniss do before the judges? Why might this act be considered controversial?

Chapter 8
1. What does Katniss fear will happen as a result of her behavior before the judges?
2. Why do you think Peeta asked to be coached separately?

Chapter 9
1. Describe Katniss and Peeta’s costumes. Why do you think Cinna dressed them like this?
2. What shocking secret does Peeta reveal during his interview?

Chapter 10
1. How does Katniss react to Peeta’s declaration once they are alone?
2. What does Peeta mean when he says the following: “I want to die as myself.”
3. What does Cinna make sure Katniss brings into the arena with her?

Chapter 11
1. Who is the first person to die in the arena? How do they die?
2. How are the tributes notified that someone has died in the arena?
3. How do you think Katniss feels when she hears Peeta planning with the Careers?

Chapter 12
1. What are some of the conflicts faced by Katniss in chapter 12?

Chapter 13
1. Describe the attack that occurs in this chapter.
2. What kind of injury does Katniss receive and how did she get it?

Chapter 14
1. What does Haymitch send to Katniss?
2. Who does Katniss team up with? Why do you think she chose this person?
3. Who saves Katniss’ life?

Chapter 15
1. Compare and contrast why Katniss and Rue think Peeta saved Katniss’ life.
Chapter 16-17
1. Summarize the major events of chapters 16-17

Chapter 18
1. How does Katniss mourn Rue?
2. How does Rue’s district show their gratitude for the way Katniss honored Rue?
3. What major rule change occurs at the end of this chapter?

Chapter 19
1. Where does Katniss find Peeta? What shape is he in?
2. Compare and contrast Katniss’ reaction to illness with how she describes how her mother and Prim react to illness back in the Seam. Why would Prim be better in the arena than Katniss during this situation with Peeta?
3. What does Katniss do in order to receive a gift from Haymitch? How does she figure out that she needs to do this?
4. How do you think Haymitch feels about Katniss and Peeta? Who do you think he believes to be the stronger competitor and why?

Chapter 20
1. What story does Katniss tell Peeta? What parts of the real story does she have to leave out because the Capitol is listening?
2. What is the purpose of the feast? Why does Katniss want to go?
3. How does Katniss trick Peeta so she can leave?

Chapter 21
1. What possible reason would Katniss have for worrying about Gale’s thoughts concerning Katniss and Peeta kissing?
2. How does Foxface outsmart the rest of the tributes at the feast?
3. Who saves Katniss and why? Why might this action upset the Capitol?

Chapter 22
1. Describe the story Peeta tells Katniss. What does this reveal about both Peeta and his father? What do we learn about Katniss’ father?

Chapter 23
1. Who do we find out is dead? Why does this upset Katniss and Peeta?
2. What are Katniss’ fears about surviving the games? What does she decide she will never do if she survives, and why does she decide this?
3. How does Peeta compare to Gale as a hunting partner?

Chapter 24
1. How is Peeta responsible for Foxface’s death?

Chapter 25
1. What are Muttations?
2. Describe Cato’s death.
3. Why are Peeta and Katniss not thrilled when they realize Cato is dead and they have won the games?
5. How do Peeta and Katniss outsmart the game makers?
Chapter 26
1. What advice does Haymitch give to Katniss?
2. What does Haymitch mean when he says: Don’t have to. He’s already there
3. What dangers do Katniss and Peeta still face despite the games being over?

Chapter 27
1. What startling discovery does Katniss make about Peeta during the interview?
2. How does Katniss explain the use of the berries during the interview?
3. Do you think Katniss was acting the whole time that she was in love with Peeta? Why or why not?

Major Project(s)  Assignment 4

Graduate students choose one assignment; Academic students – two.

Assignment Methods:

For the ALP student who enjoys using the computer

- Using an online tool like Wordle, Tagxedo, Prezi (http://prezi.com) or PowerPoint, create an organized and detailed visual, making sure you give a clear response to the questions asked or the topic you are discussing.

For the artistic ALP student who enjoys fine art

- Create an, organized, visually attractive and informative poster or piece of art, making sure you give a clear response to the questions asked or the topic you are discussing.
- You could also write a song or a poem or come up with any other creative work that meets the assignment requirements.

For the ALP student who enjoys writing

- Create an organized essay (no more than two pages double spaced), making sure you give a clear response to the questions asked or the topic you are discussing.
**Major Project Assignment 4 Choices:** Graduate students complete ONE task; Academic students, TWO.

**Task 1: Food** – If you select this task, do 1 of the 4 choices.

**Choices:**

1. Compare the food served to the athletes at the 2012 Olympic Games in London to the food served to the tributes at the 74th Hunger Games. Why is food so important at both these events? Think about world hunger today and hunger in the districts of Panem. For example, what do you think about the amounts of food served at these sporting events when people are starving? [http://www.cnn.com/2012/08/03/sport/olympics-nutrition-phelps-blake/index.html?iid=article_sidebar](http://www.cnn.com/2012/08/03/sport/olympics-nutrition-phelps-blake/index.html?iid=article_sidebar) This could be used as a cross-curricular assignment for Geography and History. See your instructor for details.

2. Write down some of the things Katniss, her family and the citizens of the Panem districts eat to survive. What do the citizens of the Capitol eat? How do these meals differ? Which are healthier? Greasy Sae’s winter specialty was “mice meat, pig entrails and tree bark.” Would you eat this to survive? What is the worst thing you have eaten because food was scarce? Answer the questions above; then create your own survival recipe. In your house you have basil, salt and pepper, a small amount of flour and oil, a root vegetable, water, garlic, some kind of wild game and some wild berries. Create a recipe for a satisfying, nutritious entrée that uses only these basic ingredients. Explain how you came up with the idea for this recipe; how the ingredients would satisfy your hunger and what ingredient you wish you had and what measure you would take to get it.

3. Food Symbolism – Find 15 items of food that are eaten in the novel. Using a chart similar to the example below, research the symbolism of each food and discuss how this symbolism relates to the novel.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food/Meal Eaten</th>
<th>Symbolism of Food Items</th>
<th>Relation to Novel</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goat cheese with basil</td>
<td>Goats represent sacrifice, male fertility, man striving to reach goals (goats climb mountains)</td>
<td>Eaten on reaping day – represents sacrifice of district tributes</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

4. With a partner or partners, plan a “Reaping Day Feast” (page 7 to 8) or a meal from “On the Train to the Capitol” (page 44) or a “first dinner in the Capitol” (page 76) or “breakfast at the Training Centre Tower” (page 87) or an “in the Arena” (page 196 – 239) to share with classmates. You will have to come up with an idea that will not cost you money – you may have to fundraise or ask for donations. A list of ingredients should be displayed. Copies of your recipes must be handed in. Decorations, costumes, etc. would be assessed.
Task 2: HISTORY CONNECTION

Comparing Moments from the Olympic Games with The Hunger Games - If you select this task, do either Choice 1, 2, or 3.

Note: Cross-curricular possibilities: There are possibilities for using part of this book for history – Unit 3 – Political Interdependence. See your instructor for more information on how this could be counted as a cross-curricular assignment.

Choice 1: The Original Silent Salute

In chapter two of The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins, the District 12 citizens give Katniss the three-finger silent salute: a gesture that shows thanks and respect her for her sacrifice. (p. 24) In the movie, Katniss gives the District 11 citizens the silent salute after Rue's death and they return the gesture. Note: In the novel, Katniss tells them thanks for the bread, but does not give the three-fingered silent salute (p. 239). At the time, Katniss realized that she had publicly displayed rebellion toward the Capitol's mores by honoring and adorning Rue's body with flowers. In turn, District 11 defies the Capitol by sending Katniss bread (or saluting her, as shown in the movie). These are public acts of rebellion toward a repressive government. So...how does this relate to the Olympics?
Research the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City. Chances are you’ve seen the iconic image of Tommie Smith and John Carlos (seen above) in their own "silent salute."

- What did Smith's and Carlos' gesture represent (or symbolize)?
- How did the public react to their gesture?
- What repercussions did they suffer because of their gesture?
- How does their statement (or form of rebellion) compare to Katniss's gesture of rebellion in *The Hunger Games*?
  - How does it compare to the silent salute by the district citizens of Panem?
- Have a look at pictures from the **1936 Berlin Olympics**. The German athletes give their own "salute" for Aryan supremacy. Despite warnings of Hitler using the Games for political propaganda and threats of boycotting, the Games went on and the Germans were not reprimanded for their public display of supremacy. (Source: NPR Nazi Olympics Tangled Politics and Sport Why would officials would allow this, yet balk at the actions of Smith and Carlos?)
  - Would Smith's and Carlos' gesture get a different response today? Why or why not?
- **Helpful source for responses: Black history political and social statements at the Olympics (LA Sentinel)**

**Choice 2 - Reaping Day and the 1969 Vietnam Lottery Draft**

- What is the difference between the Hunger Games reaping and the draft?
- How many youths were affected in the 1969 draft? In subsequent drafts? How many youths have been reaped and lost their lives in the history of the Hunger Games?
- **Helpful resource for Vietnam draft statistics: http://www.sss.gov/LOTTER1.HTM**
- How were the youths who rebelled against the draft treated by the government and/or the citizens?
- How does this differ from the way Katniss is treated when she rebels? Would it make a difference if the "draft dodgers" were women? Would they be treated differently?
- What if Peeta led the rebellion? Would he have a similar reception to those who rebelled against the Vietnam war?
- Why does gender make a difference in protests? Is the government more likely to use physical punishment for men than for women? {If it's wrong to use on women, why is it OK to use for men? Shouldn't it be wrong in both instances?}
Choice 3 – The Opening Ceremonies

With its focus on glam and glitz, the hoopla surrounding the kick-off to the Olympic Games definitely seems very Capitolish. So what does that say about us? Are we the Capitol?

Compare the Opening Ceremonies at this year’s Olympics to the Opening Ceremonies of The Hunger Games, as described in the book. In your comparison, discuss your image of the venue and how it’s decorated, include comments about the fans at both and finally, discuss the athletes’ clothing. For example, Why is what the tributes/athletes wear important? Or is it?

What about the colours? Include a discussion about globalization and get points for History Unit 3 – Economic Interdependence.

In contrast, do you think the outfits for the Tributes are made in the Capitol or in district 8, where they produce and manufacture "textiles"? We know for certain that the home districts do not make the Tribute's outfits. So does it really matter if American outfits are made in China? Or is this satire? Was Collins making a statement about the outfits, making fun of the fact that they should represent the districts, and yet they are nothing like the districts themselves?
Task 3: GEOGRAPHY CONNECTION - If you select this task, do either Choice 1 or 2.

**Note:** *Cross-curricular possibilities:* There are possibilities for using part of this book for GEOGRAPHY – Unit 1 – Mapping. See your instructor for more information on how this could be counted as a cross-curricular assignment.

**Choice 1: Map of Panem**
Using context clues from the novel and a map of North America (available in classroom), locate the Capitol and the 13 districts. You must also indicate terrain, resources and estimated populations both on your map and in a clearly designed legend. Neatness, creativity, application of what you have read and imagination are part of the assessment.

**Choice 2: The Hunger Games Arena**
Using context clues from the novel, draw a picture of the arena for the 74th annual Hunger Games. Make sure you label all the areas and landmarks on your map. See Pages 148-151 for a partial description. Use your imagination to create your sketch. There is no right answer.

Task 4: Fine Art

**Choice 1: Fine Art Piece**
Create a fine art piece (illustration, poem, song, poster, etc.) that clearly and completely illustrates the elements in *The Hunger Games*. You can pick one event of the book (Reaping Day, Training, the Games, etc.), the main characters in the book, a setting (the Capitol, the Seam, the Arena) or one of the themes from the book (Power, Reality, Society and Class, Love, Strength and Skill, Appearances, Politics, Competition or Sacrifice).

**Post-Reading Assignment 5**
Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

- Now that you have finished the book, have your values changed? How?
- If you were put in a similar situation, would the idea of survival mean something different to you? Explain.
- What is the most you would do to survive?
- What “real life” comparisons can you make to *The Hunger Games*?
- What other books has Suzanne Collins written? Would you read them? Would you recommend them to others? Why?
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<td>Avox</td>
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<td>A Hollow Day</td>
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<td>24. The Training Centre</td>
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Add 5 words of your own

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