

Reading University SECONDARY FICTION Criteria Checklist

Title of book: _____ No. of Pages: _____

Author: _____ Reviewed by: _____

Can this book be found in the SLCounty Library system? _____ Call Number: _____

Is this book part of a series?^(which one?) _____ Booklist level recommendation: _____

The Reading University Booklist is comprised of books that contain strong literary elements and support American Preparatory Academy's Curriculum, Builders Themes, and Character Development goals. To assist in the selection of books that meet these criteria, we have created the following checklist. Although perfection is impossible, the criteria checklist may provide information about ways a book may or may not compliment American Prep's programs and objectives.

Literary Elements: Please check the description that is most applicable for each element below.

Characters – Age and gender of Main Character(s): _____

___ Characters are poorly described, undeveloped, or boring. Reader doesn't connect to them.

___ Characters are believable and likeable creating some emotional attachment with reader.

___ Multi-dimensional, exciting characters; reader relates and feels a strong emotional attachment to them.

Plot

___ Loose plot with many holes; plot lines presented but have no follow through; fails to hold reader's attention.

___ Plot holds together; interesting, but may be predictable.

___ Plot is complex and clever; contains surprises; stimulates the imagination; nourishes the intellect.

Summary of book: _____

General Criteria: (Please check all that apply)

___ The overall message of this book is true, just, and/or moral.

___ This book has a timeless quality that spans all ages and encourages enjoyment by all.

___ This book enriches the concepts and curriculum taught at American Prep (list and explain).

Content Assessment: Please check the applicable descriptions under each subject below.

Language: Common swear words; disparaging speech referring to race, gender, or disabilities; and disrespectful speech towards peers, family, or authorities. Also includes "potty talk", i.e. fart, poop, peeing, booger, etc.

___ no swearing, disparaging speech, disrespectful speech, or "potty talk".

___ "potty talk"---page number(s) _____

___ disparaging speech *and/or* disrespectful speech---page number(s) _____

___ instances of God, Jesus, hell, *and/or* damn---page number(s) _____

___ instances of a**, bi*** etc.---page number(s) _____

___ instances of sh**, a**hole, the "F" word, etc.---page number(s) _____

Please provide further explanation of the incidents checked above such as author's intent, necessity vs. gratuitousness, and/or resolution of this content within the storyline. (Include copies of the text or quotes if helpful)

Sexual Content and Nudity: Characters describing or engaging in any form of sexual activity or nudity. Also includes sexual dialogue and anatomical references.

- no kissing; sexual activity sexual dialog; or anatomical references
- kissing without detail---page number(s) _____
- kissing with detail---page number(s) _____
- other sexual activity---page number(s) _____
- sexual dialogue---page number(s) _____
- anatomical references---page number(s) _____
- nudity---page number(s) _____

Please provide further explanation of the incidents checked above such as author's intent, necessity vs. gratuitousness, and/or resolution of this content within the storyline. (Include copies of the text or quotes if helpful)

Violence/Gore: Any incidents or descriptions of violence or aggression-real or fantasy.

- no violence depicted or mentioned
- violence without mention of blood or other detail---page number(s) _____
- violence depicting good vs. evil, war, etc. in which a moral resolution is the objective of the plot
---page number(s) _____
- violence with realistic *and/or* graphic descriptions such as sounds, blood, etc.
---page number(s) _____
- rape---page number(s) _____
- bullying---page number(s) _____
- glorified or gratuitous violence---page number(s) _____

Please provide further explanation of the incidents checked above such as author's intent, necessity vs. gratuitousness, and/or resolution of this content within the storyline. (Include copies of the text or quotes if helpful)

Under-age Drug/Alcohol Use: Any kind of under-aged drug/alcohol use including cigarettes, chewing tobacco, and over-the-counter drugs. Also includes dialogue advocating it.

- no alcohol or drug use or mention of it
- under-age drinking and or drug use---page number(s) _____
- under-age smoking or other tobacco use---page number(s) _____
- dialogue advocating under-age drug/alcohol use---page number(s) _____

Please provide further explanation of the incidents checked above such as author's intent, necessity vs. gratuitousness, and/or resolution of this content within the storyline. (Include copies of the text or quotes if helpful)

Adult Themes: Any reference or situation in the book which may be considered "adult" including, but not limited to, adultery, physical, emotional or sexual abuse, unethical behavior, drug and/or alcohol use, criminal activity, gender issues, the supernatural/occult, divorce, death, suicide, etc.

Please list and explain possible adult themes portrayed in the book including page numbers and/or copies of the specific text.

