

Purpose

The purpose of this assignment is threefold: (1) to demonstrate understanding of a literary text through critical analysis in the form of a creative writing response and a reflective essay, (2) to write a piece of collaborative fiction using different writing techniques, and (3) to demonstrate understanding of the role of creative writing in the development of reading, listening, writing, and conversation skills. It consists of **4 main parts**:

Part I – Story Outline and Map of an Uncharted Section of Middle Earth

Part II – Collaborative Blog-Based Story of a Missing Moment from *The Hobbit*

Part III – Reflective Essay

Part IV – Group Oral Presentation

Part I – Story Outline and Map of Uncharted Section of Middle Earth (Collaborative)

One technique for creative writing concerns the development of an outline and visual materials to help the writer envision the context and path of the story. In collaborative groups, students will develop an outline of major plot points of a collaborative story that consists of a missing moment from *The Hobbit* and will create a map of an uncharted section of Middle Earth in which this story takes place. These tools and techniques will serve as preparation and supporting material for Part II.

Part II – Collaborative Role-Play Story of a Missing Moment from *The Hobbit* (Collaborative)

Building on the outline and map generate in Part I, students will write a collaborative story (role-play story) based on a missing moment from *The Hobbit*. Each student will select one character and contribute to the story from that character's voice and perspective. This necessitates careful attention to the language style, back-story and personality of the character. Each student will be responsible for generating at least 6 paragraph-length contributions to the collaborative story. The finalized stories will be submitted in two forms: (1) on one of several social media/technology-based options for publishing and sharing, (2) and as a word document to a folder on It's Learning to facilitate grading. Shannon will provide detailed information on these three technology options as well as examples of collaborative stories in class.

Part III – Reflective Essay (Individual)

In this component students are asked to reflect upon what they have gained through the collaborative creative writing process. Below are questions to help guide the reflection:

1. What did the collaborative role-play writing process require you to pay careful attention to?
2. Describe at least two literary or stylistic features you engaged with in writing your section. Give an example of each of these features.
3. In what way can creative writing like this influence the development of reading, writing, listening and conversation skills in English?

Part IV – Group Oral Presentation (Collaborative)

For the final examination, you will present highlights of your project in a 10 minute oral presentation using Powerpoint or other visual tools. Björn will provide more information on this in class.

Evaluation

Your stories will be read to see how well the different parts mesh together (cohesion) and contribute to the story, whether the language is fluent and grammatical, for use of literary or stylistic features, and creativity of ideas.

Research

At the end of the project, you will have the opportunity to learn more about the research side of this project and to offer additional information on what the process was like and what you learned.

¹ ¹ Elicitation instrument/task instructions created by Shannon Sauro and Björn Sundmark (2014).

Timeline

Fall 2014

Week	Date	Topic	Deadlines
47	20 Nov	Introduction to the Project	Shannon will introduce The Blogging Hobbit in class. Students will form groups and begin brainstorming possible characters and missing moments and the type of technology they will use to post their outline, map and story.
48	---	Planning, Reading and Writing	
49	4 Dec		Part I – Story Outline and Map Uploaded Each group will post a link to the site they will be using to host their story and will upload a draft of their outline and map to the It's Learning Folder on The Blogging Hobbit by 23.59.
50	-----	Collaborative Writing	Recommended: Watch <i>The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies</i> for further inspiration. Swedish premiere 10 Dec.
51	21 Dec		Part II – Collaborative Story Published Each group will post a link to their completed story online and will upload a version in Word to the It's Learning folder on The Blogging Hobbit by 23.59.
52-1	-----	Reading and Reflecting	Read through each other's stories.
2	9 Jan		Part III – Reflective Essay Uploaded Upload to It's Learning by 23.59.
3	15 Jan (B423)		Part IV – Oral Presentation <u>A groups</u> will present from 9.15 – 12.00 to Björn. <u>B groups</u> will present from 13.15 -16.00 to Shannon. Please ensure you are available for the full meeting time for your group. Presentations may be recorded.