

AP Literature & Composition

SYMBOL to CONVEY THEME WRITING ACTIVITY

- The transformation, or metamorphosis, represents Gregor's personal alienation and the effect of his deadening job.
- Gregor's metamorphosis symbolizes problems in his family and how the demands placed on him have worn him down.
- Gregor's metamorphosis poignantly illustrates the power struggle within this family and shows how Gregor's transformation alters the family's dynamics.
- Gregor's metamorphosis was self-inflicted by his passivity.

Process: Working individually or in pairs to think of a symbol that represents a big idea. Examples include increasing violence in our society, the threat of terrorism, or how peer pressure affects behavior. A symbol representing the threat of terrorism may be an image of a student burdened by the weight of a heavy backpack. The student could represent people in the United States or throughout the world, and the backpack symbolizes the burden of having to worry about a random act of terrorism happening anywhere, at any time.

Pre-writing: Explain your symbol and the theme you intend to convey in a short paragraph right here on this sheet:

Writing: Incorporate your symbol into a piece of writing up to two pages long. The piece could be an essay on what the symbol means, a piece of fiction, or a poem describing the symbol's meaning.

Evaluation

(Rubric may be reduced to last two criteria if class discussion does not take place.)

14 or 15 points Participated actively in class discussions, developed a compelling symbol to represent their ideas and theme, and used their symbol very effectively in writing.

12 or 13 points Participated in class discussions, developed a symbol to represent their ideas and theme, and used their symbol effectively in writing.

10 or 11 points Participated minimally in class discussions, developed a symbol to represent their ideas and theme, and used their symbol in writing.

When aspects are missing, points will be deducted accordingly.