

## **INOP (Interactive Oral Presentation) Topics for *Kafka on the Shore***

Students need to understand the significance of the following research and presentation topics:

1. Research and discuss the biography of the author, Haruki Murakami.
2. Research and discuss the importance of cats in Japanese culture, superstition and mythology.
3. Research and discuss magical realism. Define this literary movement and explain its history. How is it relevant to the novel?
4. Research and discuss the Shinto religion in Japan. Include basic history, practice and symbolism.
5. Research some basic information about Franz Kafka and his literary works.
6. Research and discuss the culture of Japan at the time of the publication of the novel.
7. Research and discuss traditional Japanese family structure, as well as how it functions in contemporary Japanese life.
8. Research and discuss the branch of philosophy known as metaphysics. What kind of questions are explored?
9. Research the Greek myth of Oedipus and the related Oedipal developmental theories.
10. Research Natsume Sōseki. Discuss why this author appears in the novel.

### **Requirements of INOP:**

- Broadening and deepening our understanding of the **context** of the novel, including social, cultural, and historical context
- You and your group will have two full class periods to fill with information and activities to address your prompts. You and your group are the teachers, so provide good and relevant information in engaging ways. This is your opportunity to teach the way you want to be taught.
- Consider the best way to organize your two class periods. You may want to change the order of the prompts, or connect some. You may want to address some prompts together in the same way, or others in different ways.
- Each member of the group must be responsible for the significant facilitation of at least one activity or lecture on any of the above prompts, ideally and generally speaking for a total of 8-10 minutes within the group presentation.
- Must include some presentation of information AND facilitation of class discussion based on the given topic.
- Interactive Orals are a group effort in which each individual member of the group is responsible for the significant facilitation of at least one activity or lecture on any of the above prompts. The manner in which the group addresses each prompt above is up to the group.
- **All students** in class will write a reflection regarding the Interactive Oral Presentations for each novel, so not only do you need to fully participate, you need to keep notes on all information and analysis covered in these presentations.

*INOP is a major class mastery grade. It leads up to your Works In Translation essay, but is not an Internal Assessment.*

*You may use powerpoint, prezzi, create posters, act something out, make videos, etc. All of these are options but no specific format is required. You may also use a mix of formats over the two days.*

To receive full credit, you INOP must be:

- ✓ Accurate: answers all the prompts with accurate and relevant information.
- ✓ Focused: remains focused on cultural, historical, and social context
- ✓ Organized and clear: information within and across prompts is easy to follow. Visuals, if included, are large enough to see and helpful to understanding the information
- ✓ Engages the audience in meaningful discussion focused on the novel and its context
- ✓ Engages the audience through an interesting and intentional format
- ✓ Pacing: overall presentation moves at a pace that keeps the audience interested and allows students to take notes.
- ✓ Effective: volume, eye contact, use of space is effective and appropriate
- ✓ \*You must turn in ONE outline of the two days on DAY ONE of your INOP. Please turn in ONE per group, with information from all group members represented.
- ✓ \*Works Cited page must be attached to the outline. You may submit one Works Cited page with documentation from all students, or you may attach multiple pages prepared by separate students. Either way, all sources used must be cited in standard MLA format. Please use reliable and appropriate sources. Wikipedia, fan pages, blogs, will not be accepted.