

Best Description of Action:

* Must be full of ~~very~~ imagery. Must feel as if you are there in the ~~very~~ middle of the action *

• Taylor's description of Rocky's Death in Ceremony

by Leslie Marmon Silko

• The narrative "A Hanging" by George Orwell

• The description of working as a waitress in the hotel restaurant in Nickel and Dimed, chapter two.

• Okonkwo ~~beating~~ beating up the white guy in Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe.

Lanne
Hornig
Karlee
Schweizer
Tori
Cothran

Academy Awards Survey

Favorite Class Discussion

Criteria: Entertainment, Education, Purpose

- Native American Introduction
- Don't trust "the others"
- Suck TBH (the butt hole)
- Grant and his car
- Hang vs. Hong

Most Interesting Subject

Criteria: Entertainment, Discussion

- Style Analysis
- Being Gramatically Correct
- African Literature
- Native American Literature
- Act (yeah right)
- Socratic Seminars

Most Helpful Skill Learned in Class

Criteria: Useful, Most Used, Useful in Future

- Style Analysis
- Synthesis
- Rhetorical Precis
- Socratic Seminars
- sleeping
- Procrastination

Most Creative Use of Syntax by Writer

Criteria: Creativity, sentence length

- Jonathan Kozol
- MLK letter (super long sentence)
- Chinua Achebe
- Constitution
- Kurt Vonnegat

Favorite Rhetorical Term

Criteria: Pronunciation; Uselessness

- Zeugma
- Purposodotian
- Cacophony
- Hypotyposis
- Juxtaposition

Most Comedic Scene

Criteria: Entertainment; Laugh Factor

- Tao stabbing Imo
- Okonkwo trying (but failing) to shoot his wife
- Dumpster Diving
- Jonathan Swift - Eating babies

Best Actor in Character Role

Criteria: Physical resemblance, hilarity, awesomeness of character and actor.

- O. Danny Trejo as Okonkwo from *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe
- O. Whoopi Goldberg as Mrs. Washington from *Amazing Grace* by Jonothon Kozol
- O. Lassie as Lizbeth from "Lizbeth" by Lars Eighner
- O. Ellen Paige as Lenina Crowne from *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley
- O. Morgan Freeman as the narrator of anything ever
- O. Leonardo DiCaprio as David Sedaris from his works

Best Female Supporting Character

Criteria: Female characters that are not the sole or main focus of a piece and are awesome

- O. Lenina Crowne from *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley
- O. Mrs. Washington from *Amazing Grace* by Jonothon Kozol
- O. Dominique Francon from *The Fountainhead* by Ayn Rand
- O. Ezinma from *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe
- O. Auntie from *Ceremony* by Leslie Marmon Silko

Best Description of Action

Criteria: How memorable the scene is, descriptiveness, must be something action-y happening

- O. Yossarian's stabbing from *Catch-22* by Joseph Heller
- O. John's self mutilation from *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley
- O. Okonkwo kills a messenger from *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe
- O. Tayo banging Night Swan from *Ceremony* by Leslie Marmon Silko
- O. Birds running into windows again and again from "The Birds" by David Sedaris

Best Overall Main Character

Criteria: Must be the focus of the story, awesomeness was taken into account

- O. Okonkwo from *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe
- O. John the Savage from *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley
- O. The birds from "The Birds" by David Sedaris
- O. Lizbeth from "Lizbeth" by Lars Eighner
- O. John Yossarian from *Catch-22* by Joseph Heller

Best Male Supporting Character

Criteria: Male characters that are not the sole or main focus of the piece and are awesome

- O. Emo from *Ceremony* by Leslie Marmon Silko
- O. Ikemefuna from *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe
- O. Hugh from David Sedaris' works
- O. That kid who eats cookies from *Amazing Grace* by Jonothon Kozol

Best Novel:

For this category, we were looking for a novel that was an intriguing learning experience.

- a. *Amazing Grace* by Jonathan Kozol
- b. *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe
- c. *Ceremony* by Leslie Marmon Silko
- d. *Slaughterhouse Five* by Kurt Vonnegut
- e. *The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan

Best Essay:

In the essay category, we were seeking a piece that not only held the attention of the audience, but also displayed effective rhetorical strategies.

- a. "Mother Tongue" by Amy Tan
- b. "Once More to the Lake" by E.B. White
- c. "On Dumpster Diving" by Lars Eighner
- d. "True Story of American Soccer" by Dave Eggers
- e. "The Inheritance of Tools" by Scott Russell Sanders

Favorite Class Activity:

For this category, we looked for an activity that was an entertaining way of learning and discovering more about our classmates/ourselves.

- a. Lemon activity
- b. Quacktivity
- c. Socratic seminar
- d. Timed essay scoring activity (AP test prep)

Best Non-Fiction Piece:

In the non-fiction pieces we reviewed, we sought out pieces that delivered an interesting viewpoint from the author while also educating us about realistic issues.

- a. *Amazing Grace* by Jonathan Kozol
- b. "The Graduation" by Maya Angelou
- c. *Nickel and Dimed* by Barbara Ehrenreich
- d. "How it Feels to be Colored Me" by Zora Neale Hurston

Writer you're most likely to seek and read other pieces from:

For this category, we looked for strong, credible authors that wrote timely and intriguing pieces; we choose authors that are popular with the class.

- a. Amy Tan
- b. Chinua Achebe
- c. Kurt Vonnegut
- d. Tim O'Brien

BALLOT!

Savannah Moore, Nicole Schnabel, Jacqueline Bull, and Sarah Wallace

Piece You Would Most Like Made Into a Movie:

This piece best demonstrates what it takes to turn a two page dissertation into a two hour production. It is memorable beyond compare, and has vivid enough characters and plot lines to keep our attention.

- On Dumpster Diving by Lars Eighner
- The Devil in the White City by Erik Larson
- Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe
- Lizbeth by Lars Eighner

Best Overall Piece:

This piece has surpassed all its competitors. In the 70+ books and pieces read this year, this piece has demonstrated not only rhetorical correctness and decisive literary precision, but has gained high entertainment ratings from its audience.

- A Hanging by George Orwell
- The Allegory of the Cave by Plato
- Once More to the Lake by E.B. White
- On Dumpster Diving by Lars Eighner
- Lizbeth by Lars Eighner

Most Unfortunate Life:

This character is the perfect definition of 'an epic failure'. He has had nothing but sadness and trauma throughout his life and even though he tries to rise above it.....he fails every time. Hardship is his middle name.

- Okonkwo (Things Fall Apart)
- Brent Staples (Just Walk On By: A Black Man Ponders His Power to Alter Public Space by Brent Staples)
- Dr. H. H. Holmes (The Devil in the White City by Erik Larson)
- Garp (The World According to Garp by John Irving)
- Tayo (Ceremony by Leslie Marmon Silko)
- Gunga Din (Gunga Din by Rudyard Kipling)

Most Unique Character Name:

This character demonstrates how quirky parents and precise genealogy are not a good mix. These names have caused a few giggles and smirks, and prompt you to think, "Gosh, I'm glad I'm not him!"

- Ikemefuna (Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe)
- Milo Minderbinder (Catch 22 by Joseph Heller)
- I (I by Stephen Dixon)
- Ying-ying St. Clair (Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan)
- Auntie (Ceremony by Leslie Marmon Silko)
- The Traffaudorians (Slaughterhouse-Five by Kurt Vonnegut)

Author Most Likely to Appear on Oprah-

Any reading nominated in this category has such a good message that it deserves to be highlighted on Oprah.

- Amazing Grace, Jonathon Kozol
- Last Child in the Woods, Richard Louv
- Letter from Birmingham Jail, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr
- Ceremony, Leslie Marmon Silko

Most Memorable Summer Reading-

Any summer reading in this category was nominated because students still talked about them even though summer was over.

- Slaughterhouse Five, Kurt Vonnegut Jr
- Heart of Darkness, Joseph Conrad
- For Whom the Bell Tolls, Ernest Hemingway
- That Blasted Year, Dave Barry
- A Description of the Bubonic Plague, Barbara Tuchman
- Why My Dog is Not a Humanist, Kurt Vonnegut

Most Unique Author Name-

These author names are nominated because they are either constantly misspelled or butchered by students, or they are just plain interesting.

- Chinua Achebe (Things Fall Apart)
- Kurt Vonnegut Jr (Slaughterhouse Five and others)
- Ben Ehrenreich (The Suitors)
- Lars Eighner (Lizbeth, On Dumpster Diving)
- Plato (Allegory of the Cave)
- Malcolm X (Learning to Read)

Character You'd Most Like to be Stuck on an Island With

Characters nominated in this category were for one of two reasons. One, the character exhibits excellent survival skills with self-sufficient properties as well as outdoor experience. Two, the character would make being stuck on an island more enjoyable.

- Okonkwo from Things Fall Apart
- Lars Eighner from Dumpster Diving
- David Washington Amazing Grace
- Lizbeth from Lizbeth

Best Actress in Character Roles:

If the story were to be made into a movie, which actresses would play each female role. The characters were determined by their contribution to the story, their courage, and general awesomeness.

- Things Fall Apart Ekwefi Zoe Saldana
- Ceremony Night Swan Sofia Vergara
- Amazing Grace Mrs. Washington Queen Latifa
- Nickel and Dimed Barbara Ehrenreich Sandra Bullock

Best Fiction Piece:

Whether the best fiction is so-named because of its outrageous ideas or its genuine story, best fiction should demonstrate an entertaining and pleasurable read. Selection of this may go to one of the following:

- "A Modest Proposal" by Jonathan Swift
- "Things Fall Apart" by Chinua Achebe
- "Ceremony" by Leslie Marmon Silko
- "Hills like White Elephants" by Ernest Hemingway

Best Explanation of Dress:

There are those works which present readers with a mentally vivid image of the adornment of all the characters' dress in their first entrances. Readers picture colors, accessories and the intricate details of the outfit. The best application of this deserves this award.

- "There is No Unmarked Woman" by Deborah Tannen
- "Nickel and Dimed" by Barbara Ehrenreich
- "Hopper's Poluted Silence" by John Updike
- "A Hanging" by George Orwell

Most Boring:

Some literary pieces seem to be written with the explicit purpose of putting the reader to sleep. These works leave readers dozing off every two minutes, causing them to awaken startlingly and reread the section to understand it all. The best exemplification of this description deserves this award.

- "The Divine Revolution" by Vaclav Havel
- "Can We Know the Universe?" by Carl Sagan
- "Amazing Grace" by Jonathan Kozol
- "An Evolutionist Look at Modern Man" by Loren Eiseley
- "On the Different Kinds of Republics, and What Kind the Roman Republic Was" by Niccolo Machiavelli

Best Villian:

The very sound of this character's name makes your blood run cold. True evil at its best, these nominations are very, very bad eggs.

- Reverend James Smith (Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe)
- Dr. H. H. Holmes (The Devil in the White City by Erik Larson)
- Emo (Ceremony by Leslie Marmon Silko)
- The African Natives (Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad)

Academy Awards Ceremony Ballot

Best Pre-1800s piece: Any piece that was written before 1800 qualifies, including any genre or piece of this type included. The most enjoyable piece (as voted on by the class) receives the award.

- a. Plato's "Allegory of the Cave"
- b. Swift's "Modest Proposal"
- c. Thoreau's "Walden"
- d. Bacon's "Of Truth"
- e. Jefferson's "Declaration of Independence"

Sketchiest Narrator: Any piece (but especially those of the autobiographical sort) whose narrator seems to be a less than upstanding member of the community, or who is of a demeanor that is less than fully pleasant.

- a. Swift's "Modest Proposal"
- b. Alexie's "Superman and Me"
- c. Eigner's "On Dumpster Diving"
- d. Church's "Yes Virginia, There is a Santa Clause"

Sassiest Narrator: Any piece (but especially those of the autobiographical sort) whose narrator is either condescending, sharp or bitter.

- a. Sojourner Truth's "Ain't I a Woman"
- b. Barry's "Lost in the Kitchen"
- c. Truss's "Eats, Shoots, and Leaves"
- d. Cofer's "Myth of a Latin Woman"

Best Philosophical: Any piece which invokes philosophical thought as an end, rather than as a means. Genre will most likely be essay, which attempts to explain a philosophy.

- a. Plato's "Allegory of the Cave"
- b. Hearne's "What's Wrong with Animal"
- c. "An Evolutionist Look at Modern Man"
- d. "Of Truth"
- e. "Can We Know the Universe"

Best Comedy: Any piece that invokes laughter using comical anecdotes, diction, and/or sarcasm.

- a. Sedaris's "Me Talk Pretty One Day"
- b. Anzaldua's "Wild tongue"
- c. Sedaris's "Turbulence"
- d. Swift's "A Modest Proposal"

Best Sound Description: Any piece that utilizes extensive onomatopoeia to portray a vivid image of the situation.

- Kingston's "No Name Woman"
- Baldwin's "Stranger In the Village"
- Kozol's "Amazing Grace: In the Lives of Children"
- Cofe's "Myth of a Latin Woman"

Best Supporting Character: Any piece with a secondary character used to add dimension to a main character. (Two characters with a personal relationship)

- Ascher's "On Compassion"
- Hughes's "Salvation"
- Mannes's "The Thin Grey Line"
- Eighner's "Elizabeth"
- Tan's "Mother Tongue"

Best Exchange of Dialogue: Any piece that uses vivid and intriguing language in a conversation to further the develop characters and/or plotlines.

- Kozol's "Amazing Grace: In the Lives of Children"
- Silko's "Ceremony"
- Tan's "Mother Tongue"
- Arzaidia's "How to Tame a Wild Tongue"

Best Introductory Sentence: Any piece that uses a powerful or descriptive beginning sentence to grab the reader's attention.

- Ascher's "On Compassion"
- Eighner's "On dumpster Diving"
- Walker's "In Search of Our Mothers' Gardens"

Best Setting: Any piece that utilizes vivid language and imagery to portray the place a plot occurs in.

- Ascher's "On Compassion"
- Kozol's "Amazing Grace: In the Lives of Children"
- White's "Once More to the Lake"
- Achebe's "Things Fall Apart"

Jessica Plastow
Tessa Brown
Leena Shah
Zack Teela

Most Obscure Message: Any piece that seems to allegorize, but the exact goal of aforementioned allegory is difficult to ascertain for the majority of readers.

- Eisenly's "The Bird and the Machine"
- Angelou's "Graduation"
- Vonnegut's "Why My Dog Is Not a Humanist"

1. Best Overall writer

Had a very strong use of o-appeals, related to audience, kept reader's attention, good use of diction.

- (a) - Martin Luther King Jr. (Letter from Birmingham Jail)
- (b) - Kurt Vonnegut
- (c) E. B. White
- (d) Lars Eighner

2. Most Dramatic Literary Moment

Made reader feel as if they were there, used good imagery

- (a) Okonkwo hanging himself
- (b) Taylor's friend Rocky getting killed
- (c) Ittemefuna getting killed
- (d) John pouring hot water on his wife - In the Lake of the Woods by Tim O'Brien

3. Best use of words (diction) for description

uses enhanced imagery and creates a very strong tone, portrays strong emotional reaction.

- (a) E. B. White - Once More to the Lake
- (b) Joseph Heller - Catch 22
- (c) Abraham Lincoln - Gettysburg Address
- (d) James Baldwin - Stranger in the Village

4. Best Literary Depiction

stimulated reader's mind and created a situation that was relatable or provoked sympathy or empathy.

- (a) A Modest Proposal - Jonathan Swift
- (b) Kozol's depiction of poverty in the Bronx
- (c) Carl Sagan's can we know the Universe?
- (d) Thomas Jefferson - Declaration of Independence depicting woes of America

5. Best Scene

Contained a lot of action and intense rising action, stimulated shock or surprise from the reader.

- (a) Smothering an elephant - George Orwell
- (b) A Hanging - George Orwell
- (c) Final scene in Things Fall Apart, Okonkwo cutting off guys' head with a machete.
- (d) Allegory of the Cave - Plato

6. Worst use of appeals

tried and attempted to appeal to audience using either logos, pathos, or ethos but did not stimulate any response and reader didn't care.

- (a) Jonathan Kozol - Amazing Grace
- (b) Lyn Truss - Eats, Shoots, and Leaves

③ Barbara Ehrenreich - Nickel and Dimed

④ Thomas Jefferson - Declaration of Independence

7. Biggest Waste of Paper / Least Read
by the entire class.

self explanatory!

⑥ Jonathan Kozol - Amazing Grace

⑦ Lynn Truss + Grammar Packets

⑧ Socratic Seminar Pieces

⑨ Articles in Credible / Not Credible
packet.

Scene that was most successful at evoking emotion from reader

All the nominees effectively used pathos and persuasive diction in order to achieve nomination.

- *No Name Woman* by Maxine Hong Kingston – 1976
- *What's Wrong with Animal Rights?* by Vicki Hearne – 1991
- *The Perils of Indifference* by Elie Wiesel – 1999
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "Letter from Birmingham Jail"
- Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.'s Commencement Address at Rice University on May 09th, 1998

Most overall memorable scene

Most moving

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I have a Dream" Speech
- "On Compassion" by Barbara Lazaar Ascher
- Section 5 of Leslie Marmon Silko's, *Ceremony*
- "Amazing Grace" by Jonathan Kozol
- *The Gettysburg Address* by President Abraham Lincoln - 1863

* These scenes evoked most emotion and thought.

Best short story

Most memorable

- "Undecided" by David Sedaris
- "Allegory of the Cave" by Plato
- "The Birds" by David Sedaris
- "Shooting an Elephant" by George Orwell
- "Superman and Me" by Sherman Alexie

* These short stories were most memorable because of

1) Most Reliable Character

- Character ~~one~~ whose story hits home, and ~~appeals~~ develops a relationship with.

- A) Okonkwo from Things Fall Apart
- B) Man from Dumpster Diving
- C) Tony from Ceremony
- D) Maxine Hong Kingston's shoots and leaves
- E) ~~Barbara Ehrenreich~~ from Nickel and Dimed

2) Greatest Turning Point

- Situation in story in which audience is most sympathetic and situation goes from good to bad.

- A) When Tony visits Medicine Man (Ceremony)
- B) Okonkwo's adopting a child (Things Fall Apart)
- C) ~~Barbara~~ visits drug test (Nickel and Dimed)
- D) Maxine shoots and leaves when 2003 standards
- E) When Kozol went from objective to ~~decline~~ ^{sympathetic}

3) Bravest Person

- Theme for in "Things Fall Apart" by Chinua Achebe
 - Jonathan Hoel in "Amazing Grace" by Jonathan Hoel
 - Kochy in "Ceremony" by Leslie Karmen Silko
 - Barbara Ehrenreich in "Nickel and Dimed"
 - Maxine Hong Kingston in "No Name Woman" by Maxine
- * In hard situations, these characters Hong Kingston beat their odds with courage and strength.

Best Male

- ~~Okonkwo~~ character that best represents ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~male~~ ^{male} ~~character~~ ^{character} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~novel~~ ^{novel} ~~Things Fall Apart~~ ^{Things Fall Apart}.

- 1) Okonkwo in "Things Fall Apart"
- 2) Tony in "Ceremony"
- 3) Juan Bata's Castro in "Amazing Grace"
- 4) Mr. Brown in "Things Fall Apart"

Best Female

- ~~Barbara~~ ^{the} ~~female~~ ^{female} ~~character~~ ^{character} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~novel~~ ^{novel} ~~Things Fall Apart~~ ^{Things Fall Apart}.

- 1) Auntie in "Ceremony"
- 2) Elizabeth in "Things Fall Apart"
- 3) Alice Washington in "Amazing Grace"
- 4) Barbara Ehrenreich in "Nickel and Dimed"