Meet Deborah Ellis

From her website:

Writing books is something I have always wanted to do, and have tried to do, since I was twelve years old, growing up in Paris, Ontario. Writing helps me to understand the world and myself. While the work of writing is often frustrating and difficult, it can also be glorious and exciting.

As soon as high school was over, I got involved in the movement to rid the world of nuclear weapons. Political activism for peace and social justice forms a large part of my life. My books reflect the heroism of people around the world who are struggling for decent lives. It has been a real privilege for me to sit with people in many parts of the world and learn how their lives have been drastically altered by war or disease, and how they try to remain kind in spite of it all. This has taught me how fundamentally alike we all are.

About Deborah Ellis:

Deborah Ellis was born in Cochrane, Ontario, and grew up in Paris, Ontario. The younger of two sisters, Deborah was a loner who preferred books and her own imagination for company. Somewhat at odds with a formal education, she became a political activist at the age of seventeen. After high school, she moved to Toronto and worked in the Peace Movement and the Women’s Movement. Today Deborah works as a counselor in a psychiatric group home for women.

Deborah gained recognition as a writer with her first novel for young adult readers. Looking for X was published in 1999, and it won the Governor General’s Award.

In 1997, Deborah had gone to Pakistan to help at an Afghan refugee camp. Out of this experience came the young adult novel, The Breadwinner, published in 2000. The story of Parvana - a young Afghan girl who disguises herself as a boy in order to support her family - won both the Manitoba Young Readers’ Choice Award and the Hackmatack Award. In 2002, Deborah published the highly acclaimed sequel, Parvana’s Journey. The book won the prestigious Jane Addams Children’s Book Award, sponsored by the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom. Deborah donated the royalties for both Parvana’s Journey and The Breadwinner to Women for Women in Afghanistan. The following year she completed what is now known as The Breadwinner Trilogy with Mud City. The trilogy won special commendation from the Jane Addams Children’s Book Award. The royalties for Mud City go to Street Kids International.

http://www.groundwoodbooks.com/gw_authors.cfm?author_id=193&type=authors&alpha_view=E
http://www.childrenslit.com/childrenslit/mai_ellis_deborah.html
**Read and annotate (look up unfamiliar words; identify themes; characterization; symbols; setting; conflict) The Breadwinner. Be ready to engage in class discussions and be tested on this reading in September, 2017 (school opening). Also, submit your summer reading assignment the first day of school. Thanks,**

Mrs. Panasiti
The Breadwinner:
Creative PROJECT

Choose one of the following projects.

Option #1:
The Breadwinner: Time Capsule

Pretend you are one of the main characters in the novel: Parvana, Nooria, Father or Mother. Create a time capsule and choose 7 items you would include to signify life during the Taliban Regime in Afghanistan. Make the items specifically important to you (the character) and your family during the fight to survive.

You may draw the time capsule and the items on a poster/foam board. In addition to the capsule itself, you will also write a paragraph for each item you placed on the project and specifically how they represent the novel. The paragraph can be a caption on the front of the project or placed on the back. All explanations should be TYPED and the presentation should be NEAT and ATTRACTIVE.

Your time capsule will be unique to your character/family, and the items chosen should reflect this. Choose the ITEMS that best represent what you want future generations to know about your character’s survival during that time.

Keep in mind the number of years that will go by when you seal your time capsule to when someone opens it up. If technological change occurs as rapidly in the next 100 years as it has in the last 100 years, the people of the future might not know what a video tape, an optical disc, or a play-station game is or have the equipment to play it on.
Option #2:

The ABCs of Survival for The Breadwinner

Use each letter of the alphabet to create a survival guide that could help someone during the Taliban Regime, such as the one Parvana and her family encountered in The Breadwinner. Survival tips can be written as words, phrases, or complete sentences and can be a combination of all three. These tips should be created based on what you read in the novel. For example, Parvana’s family decided to turn Parvana into a boy because women were not allowed outside. Therefore, you may say for B – Parvana pretended to be a boy so that she could go outside and support her family. All tips should be TYPED and the presentation of the survival guide should be NEAT and ATTRACTIVE.
Rubric for Time Capsule or

Contains required elements: 10 pts. __________
Symbols are thoughtful & meaningful 25 pts. __________
Project is neat and attractive 20 pts. __________
Presentation is creative 20 pts. __________
Paragraphs/Explanation 15 pts. __________
Mechanics & Grammar 10 pts. __________

Total Points 100 pts. __________

COMMENTS:

Rubric for Survival Guide

Contains required elements: 10 pts. __________
Tips are thoughtful & meaningful 30 pts. __________
Project is neat and attractive 20 pts. __________
Presentation is creative 20 pts. __________
Mechanics & Grammar 20 pts. __________

Total Points 100 pts. __________

COMMENTS: