

# Class of 2020

*Turn your summer read experience into a Visual Timeline. **FRESHMEN ONLY!** Is this the project you want to choose? Use the following FAQ to determine if this approach to reflecting and responding to your summer read experience will give you the best opportunity to share your experience with the book and develop your skills.*

**What is a Visual Timeline for the BFHS One Read?** The simplest definition is that you will be creating a graphical representation with text. Your timeline will be made up of related items or events in sequential order and displayed along a line. You can organize your timeline by DATE or EVENT. Although there are online digital tools for creating a timeline, don't do it! This is your creative project that includes the tactile experience of drawing the timeline, ordering the dates and selecting or drawing pictures that represent events and other meaningful moments in the novel. Get a ruler, draw or print out pictures and/or clip art, grab a glue stick, color markers, a pair of scissors and get to work.

**Where can I get an idea of what the finished product should look like?** Timelines can be as simple or elaborate as your creativity allows. There are plenty of examples on the web. The important thing is that your timeline is clear and easy for others to follow and interpret. It's up to you! In its simplest form, a timeline is a line (usually horizontal) and the earliest date is on the left to begin the timeline and the latest date on the right to end the timeline.

**How do I get started?** Get a simple notebook that you can use as a reader's journal and something to write with. Read the book. Think about the main ideas and messages the book conveys to you. Make notes and capture days and dates in your journal and label those occurrences and events that seem important. If something causes a picture in your mind's eye, draw it out. Maybe you can use it later.

In other words, analyze the story. Clearly identify the **Beginning** of the book, at least 3 events that happen during the **Rising Action** and that lead to the **Climax**. What is the **Resolution** and what is the **Ending**? Every story has a flow. Step into the original author's intentions to inform and entertain.

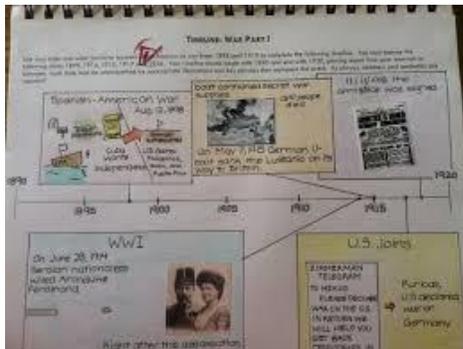
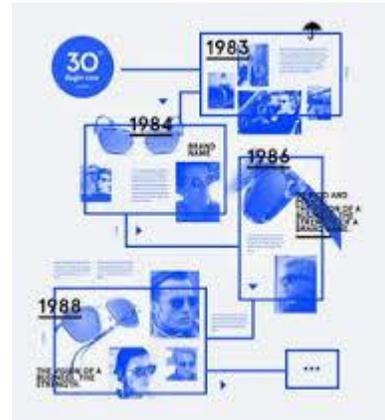
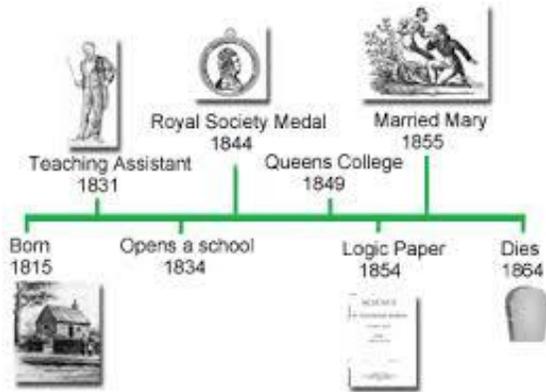
**How do I know which events are important?** Stick to the book. Think about your audience. Imagine that the person experiencing your Visual Timeline has chosen your format instead of reading the book. Leave your opinions behind while you focus on restating the author's story as it was originally meant to be told. You'll need a minimum of 20 moments on your timeline but may find you need a few more to get the full meaning of the book across.

**Any creative tips?** Never pick-up the novel without your reading journal beside you. You never know where or when something significant will happen in the plot. Take a mindful approach to your reading by remaining aware of your intention to create a visual timeline. Ask yourself what you need to know about the plot and characters so that people following your timeline will know what the novel is about.

**What should the finished Timeline look like?** Standard 8 1/2 by 11 paper is good to use (you might need to tape a few together) or a more firm poster board might work better. You may use different kinds of paper or mix it up-- larger, smaller, some with a grip, newsprint, etc. and you can use markers and colored pencils to achieve a unique style. Decide what adds to conveying your meaning and avoid what might distract your viewer from understanding what you are trying to say.

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A Visual Timeline might look something like the examples below and will have a minimum of 20 significant events. The important thing is that when your audience looks at the entries, the totality of the experience retells the One Read story. Remember, this is a visual timeline so clip art and/or drawings are important, not just the event or date. Be sure to label each entry so your audience gets the story sequence the way you intended.



**NOTE:** You must keep a reading journal as you read. You'll need to track the two major characters in the novel (Vivian and Molly) and note significant events that occur as the plot for each character unfolds. Note the dates and start to collect or draw small pictures that represent the meaning of each of the events on your timeline. The size of the timeline and pictures are up to you but remember that you'll be turning this in to be graded. Keep your creation manageable so it's comfortable to work with and easy to pass in for grading.

This sheet accompanies the Visual Timeline Project Description

**Ask a librarian** Ms. Smith is available via email at [dms@fenwick.org](mailto:dms@fenwick.org) so don't hesitate to reach out. The O'Rourke Library and Learning Center is on the 3rd floor on the auditorium side of the school.