Task for Book Circles

- 1. Questions: What are the unsolved loose ends of the novel? What made you think and is still on your mind? Is there anything you did not understand? Do you have any questions you would like to ask the author/ a character/ a classmate/ a teacher? Write down all these questions on the cards provided by your teacher.
- 2. Meet in your book circles and put all your questions in the middle Discuss all your question cards, try to answer them. Call your teacher or co-teacher if you need help.
- **3.** Fill in the **character profile** for the main characters
- **4. Hot or Cold**? Compare and discuss your reactions to the novel. What made you hot? What left you cold?

5. Prepare your presentation:

Your presentation must be really professionally done this time. Collect information about the following aspects of the novel. Decide who is going to present them and what is the most efficient order to present these features.

Author and background (time, setting...) (only RELEVANT information)

Brief plot info (approx. 7 bits of information) on a plot mountain or plot diagram. Info about plot development (chronological, flashbacks, inner monologue, stream of consciousness, point of view...)

Use your *Hot and Cold* info: how did you react to these events? Would your personal feelings curve be parallel to the plot curve or would it be different at any points?

Main characters: (visualize, give main personality traits)

decide whether it makes more sense to present the characters first, or do that after or parallel to the plot overview.) Use your character profiles info. Does the main character develop in any way?

Other narrative features **relevant** in the novel:

Setting: how important is the setting? What role does it play? Make sure your classmates can really visualize it.

Point of view: how does the point of view influence our perception of the story? Does it change throughout the novel?

Symbolism – **and Theme**: how does the title emphasize the theme? Have you come across any symbolic objects or actions? What do they stand for?

Style and tone: How do style and tone support the theme?

Homework:

Obesign an original book cover and a blurb for the novel (each of you individually). Draw/paint/write on an A4 sheet (landscape format) and present your ideas at the end of the presentation. Consider the following questions: How can my cover show the main theme? How can I capture the tone without using words? Use colors, symbolic elements, settings... to show rather than tell the audience what the book is really about. Don't discuss your ideas with your friends in class. This will limit your creativity. It will be interesting to see different interpretations of the same novel.