

ESL Graduate Studies Capstone Project

Project Overview

Welcome to your capstone project! This is your opportunity to explore a topic that interests you while demonstrating your English language skills. You will:

1. Choose a topic you are passionate about
2. Read a book on this topic
3. Create and deliver a presentation

This project allows you to combine your personal interests with language learning. It will help you improve your reading, writing, research, and presentation skills in English. Be creative, be thorough, and most importantly, have fun with the learning process!

Timeline and Process

Phase 1: Topic Selection (March 24-28)

- Identify your interests and choose a focus topic
- Get your topic approved by your teacher
- Find appropriate books and resources

Phase 2: Reading and Research (March 29-April 11)

- Read your selected book(s)
- Take organized notes using the provided templates
- Gather additional information if needed

Phase 3: Project Development (April 12-April 27)

- Organize your research findings
- Create your presentation
- Practice delivering your presentation

Phase 4: Presentation (April 28, April 30, May 5, May 7, May 12)

- Present your project to the class
- Answer questions from peers and teacher

Need Help?

Please let Ann or Lori know if you have questions or need assistance at any stage of your project.

Detailed Capstone Project Guidelines

Part 1: Choosing Your Topic & Finding a Book

Step 1: Brainstorming Interests

Think about topics that:

- You are genuinely curious about
- Connect to your personal or professional goals
- Would be interesting to learn more about and share with others

Step 2: Finding a Book

- Visit your local library
- Ask your teacher for recommendations

Part 2: Research Process

Reading Strategies:

- Read in short sessions to maintain focus
- Highlight or note important information
- Summarize each chapter after reading

Part 3: Creating Your Presentation

Presentation Format Options:

- PowerPoint/Google Slides presentation (5-7 slides)
- Poster display with visual elements\
- Creative project with explanation

Basic Presentation Structure:

1. Introduction
 - Attention-grabber
 - Topic introduction
 - Why you chose this topic
 - Preview of main points
2. Main Content (3-5 key points)
 - Clear organization of ideas
 - Supporting evidence from your research
 - Visual aids (images, charts, etc.)
 - Examples or stories that illustrate your points
3. Conclusion
 - Summary of main points
 - Personal reflection on what you learned
 - Thought-provoking ending or call to action

Part 4: Delivering Your Presentation

Language Focus Areas:

- Topic-specific vocabulary
- Transition phrases between ideas
- Emphasis and intonation for key points
- Clear pronunciation of difficult words

Note-Taking Template

Book Title: _____

Page #	Facts / Quotes	My Thoughts & Questions

Capstone Planning Guide

My Topic & Book: _____

A. Introduction

Attention-grabber: _____

Topic introduction: _____

Why you chose this topic: _____

Preview of main points: _____

B. Main Content (3 key points; supporting evidence, examples, or stories; images, charts, etc.)

Point 1: _____

Point 2: _____

Point 3: _____

C. Conclusion

Summary of main points: _____

Personal reflection on what you learned: _____

Thought-provoking ending or call to action: _____
