

THE INVENTION UNIT

A CULMINATING ACTIVITY FOR SCIENCE AND ENGLISH

During the semester you will learn concepts and skills of scientific study and effective communication. The Invention Unit is designed to put those skills and concepts to use. The unit will span the entire semester although we will not be working on it all the time. You will receive special calendars in addition to your regular class schedules so that you will be able to meet deadlines. Please keep and refer to this list of requirements for the unit:

1. A brief group presentation on at least two inventors and their inventions
2. A Disclosure Statement that will identify and explain the invention that you plan to build and test
3. An invention that attempts to solve the problem you have identified and which you can evaluate using good scientific methods
4. Three Progress Reports that will document your planning and experimentation
5. At least one graph summarizing your experimental results
6. A brief PowerPoint presentation or other suitable audiovisual report
7. A brochure summarizing the need for the invention, the invention, test results, and ordering information
8. A detailed paper that proposes the type of speech you will give, including purpose and audience, content, structure, and delivery techniques
9. A speech of at least two minutes that includes a demonstration of your invention

You may choose one of the following scenarios for your speech:

- You are an entrant in an Invention Convention
- You are a scientist sharing results with colleagues in a lab
- You are making an infomercial or a segment for a home shopping program
- You are meeting with a manufacturer to arrange production of your invention
- You are in a Research & Development meeting in which you are reporting on your progress. In this scenario you are not trying to sell your invention, but you must make a recommendation for further development, modifications, or termination.

It is entirely possible to receive full credit in both science and English for an invention that is not completely successful. You are being graded on your use of the scientific method and your communication of results.