**Student Name:
Title: *The Fault in Our Stars*
Author: John Green
Genre: Realistic Fiction**

He’s in remission from the osteosarcoma that took one of his legs. She’s fighting the brown fluid in her lungs caused by tumors. Both know that their time is limited.

Sparks fly when Hazel Grace Lancaster spies Augustus “Gus” Waters checking her out across the room in a group-therapy session for teens living with cancer. He’s a gorgeous, confident, intelligent amputee who always loses video games because he tries to save everyone. She’s smart, snarky and 16; she goes to community college and jokingly calls Peter Van Houten, the author of her favorite book, An Imperial Affliction, her only friend besides her parents. He asks her over, and they swap novels. He agrees to read the Van Houten and she agrees to read his—based on his favorite bloodbath-filled video game. The two become connected at the hip, and what follows is a smartly crafted intellectual explosion of a romance. From their trip to Amsterdam to meet the reclusive Van Houten to their hilariously flirty repartee, readers will swoon on nearly every page. Green’s signature style shines: His carefully structured dialogue and razor-sharp characters brim with genuine intellect, humor and desire. He takes on Big Questions that might feel heavy-handed in the words of any other author: What do oblivion and living mean? Then he deftly parries them with humor: “My nostalgia is so extreme that I am capable of missing a swing my butt never actually touched.” Dog-earing of pages will no doubt ensue. Green seamlessly bridges the gap between the present and the existential, and readers will need more than one box of tissues to make it through Hazel and Gus’ poignant journey. (Fiction. 15 & up)

**Student Name:
Title: *Divergent*
Author: Veronica Roth
Series: Divergent
Genre: Dystopian**Beatrice Prior resides in a dystopian Chicago where society is divided into five different factions. These factions were created to grow specific virtues and to bring harmony to the world— Candor, Dauntless, Amity, Erudite, and Abnegation. On a designated day once a year each and every sixteen year old among the factions must make a choice, a choice that transforms their future. On this day each one is to decide the faction they will be devoted to for the rest of their lives. The choice for Beatrice is to live her life with her family, or be who she really is— there is no way she can have both. The decision she makes is one that surprises everyone— including herself.

I was recommended Divergent by a friend, so even before I returned home I hopped online to make the purchase. When I got home I opened the package and started to read…and honestly I couldn’t put the book down. Divergent is one of many books about dystopian societies that are appearing on the shelves of bookstores all over the nation. What makes this one unique is the depth that Roth includes in her writing. It is more than just the struggle of living in a dystopia, or more than just the normal teenage girl struggles, of love and acceptance, but of doing what is right and standing up for the things you believe in. I may not be living in the same world as Tris but I found myself able to relate to her, at least a little. Her struggle between staying alive for the sake of those she loves, or sacrificing herself to save the world she knows. Even when there wasn’t a battle, or people fighting one another this book kept me on the edge of my seat, sometimes literally. If you had seen me I was on the edge of my chair waiting for what was going to happen next. Roth did an amazing job with Divergent and she is able to keep the reader interested the entire way through. If you enjoyed the Hunger Games, Divergent is a less gruesome version and having read both I honestly could say I like Divergent more. I would recommend this book for teens, young adults, and adults especially if you’re a fan of reading about dystopian societies.