**Like Water for Chocolate**

**Group Assignment**

Your group's task is to teach some assigned chapters from *Like Water for Chocolate*. Your presentation will be no more than 25 minutes in length. Every member of your group must participate in the completion of the final product, which will include the following components.

Please note that this is a guide to help you.  You are not limited to these elements, nor are you required to address ***all* of them**.  Indeed, you are encouraged to become engaged in the work and go beyond what I've outlined here:

1.  A discussion of the important symbols/motifs in your chapter of the novel.  Some of the most prominent symbols/motifs in the novel include **but are not limited to**:

* fire and heat
* food
* rebellion
* strength and destruction
* Internal vs. external power
* spirits
* nature/animals

2.  A discussion of the important themes of the novel present in your chapter of the novel.  Some of the most prominent themes/motifs include **but are not limited to**:

* Gender roles (traditional *and* redefined or inverted)
	+ domesticity vs. power and influence in a masculine realm
	+ The reconciliation of the traditional and contemporary roles of women
* Imprisonment/ domination vs. independence and rebellion
* Fertility and barrenness
* Love and desire
	+ Example:  Love relationships (i.e., physical, spiritual, maternal, fraternal, patriotic):
		- Tita / Pedro
		- Rosaura / Pedro
		- Tita / John
		- Mama Elena / the mulatto
		- Gertrudis / Juan
		- Gertrudis /José Treviño
		- Tita / Roberto / Esperanza
		- Tita / Nacha
		- Tita / Chencha
		- the Federales / the Revolutionaries (love of country)
* duality (life and death, frigidity and desire, etc.)
* Sisterhood

3.  A discussion of the important philosophical and/or subgenre underpinnings of the novel.  Some might include **but are not limited to**:

* Critical theory (Formalist, Psychological, Feminist, Cultural)
* Magical Realism
* The existential struggle to define oneself

4. Character sketch: a discussion of how characters have developed throughout your assigned chapters.

**Creative Segment:**

5. You will be developing a “trailer” for your assigned chapters. Your trailer will be slightly different than a regular movie trailer because it must include:

-a dominant theme or symbol in your chapters

-minimum of two significant quotations

-demonstration of some features or effects of magical realism

-development the mood of your chapters

-a secondary literary piece ( poem, short story, essay, novel,…) or work of media that symbolically represents a motif or theme present within your chapters.

 Options regarding structure of assignment:

* -movie trailer filmed by your group of group members acting
* -movie trailer of images, photos, voice-overs, etc.
* -dramatic presentation of trailer in front of the class
* -storyboard created using a computer program OR hand drawn

Be sure that all members of your group are participating in this assignment.  The easiest way to do this is to divide the tasks, which include:

* A PowerPoint presentation (PLEASE NOTE:  PowerPoint slides should represent an *outline* of your material. Do NOT write out your presentation word-for-word.  Bulleted lists are preferred over paragraphs).
* A handout for each member of the class and the teacher to support your presentation
* Quotes (on the presentation *and* on the handouts) to support your group's analysis.

**You need to hand in a contribution sheet to briefly explain how much your group members have contributed in the successful completion of the task.**