

A: Blurb + Memo

This assignment asks you to write a “blurb” for the back cover of *Green Grass, Running Water*, and then write a brief memo explaining your choices in portraying the novel in your blurb.

Blurb

Blurbs are short, enticing, partial summaries of novels that give potential readers a glimpse of aspects of the novel such as character, plot, setting, tone, and style. Their goal is both to tell the reader what the book will be like and to encourage the reader to buy the book, so they are informative and enthusiastic (sometimes to the point of being ridiculous...).

On the back of this worksheet are samples of blurbs that should serve as a good introduction to what a typical blurb sounds like. You can consult novels from your own bookshelf for more examples.

We haven't finished reading *Green Grass, Running Water*, and that's fine—blurbs never give away the novel's ending! And you will have the opportunity to revise your blurb after you finish reading in case you have more to say or want to amend your initial description of the book.

Memo

Once you've written your blurb, I'd like you to write a brief (250-350 words) reflection on the choices you made in your blurb. How did you represent the novel? What aspects of the book did you focus on, and why? Were there any specific strategies you used to make the book seem enticing? What was easiest or most difficult about writing in this genre?

Although readers of *Green Grass, Running Water* are the audience for the blurb, I will be the audience for this memo. The goal should simply be to show that you made conscious decisions about how to write your blurb.

Length: Blurb: 90-110 words; Memo: 250-350 words

Due Date: 8:30am on Tuesday, April 6